SMILIN' JACK

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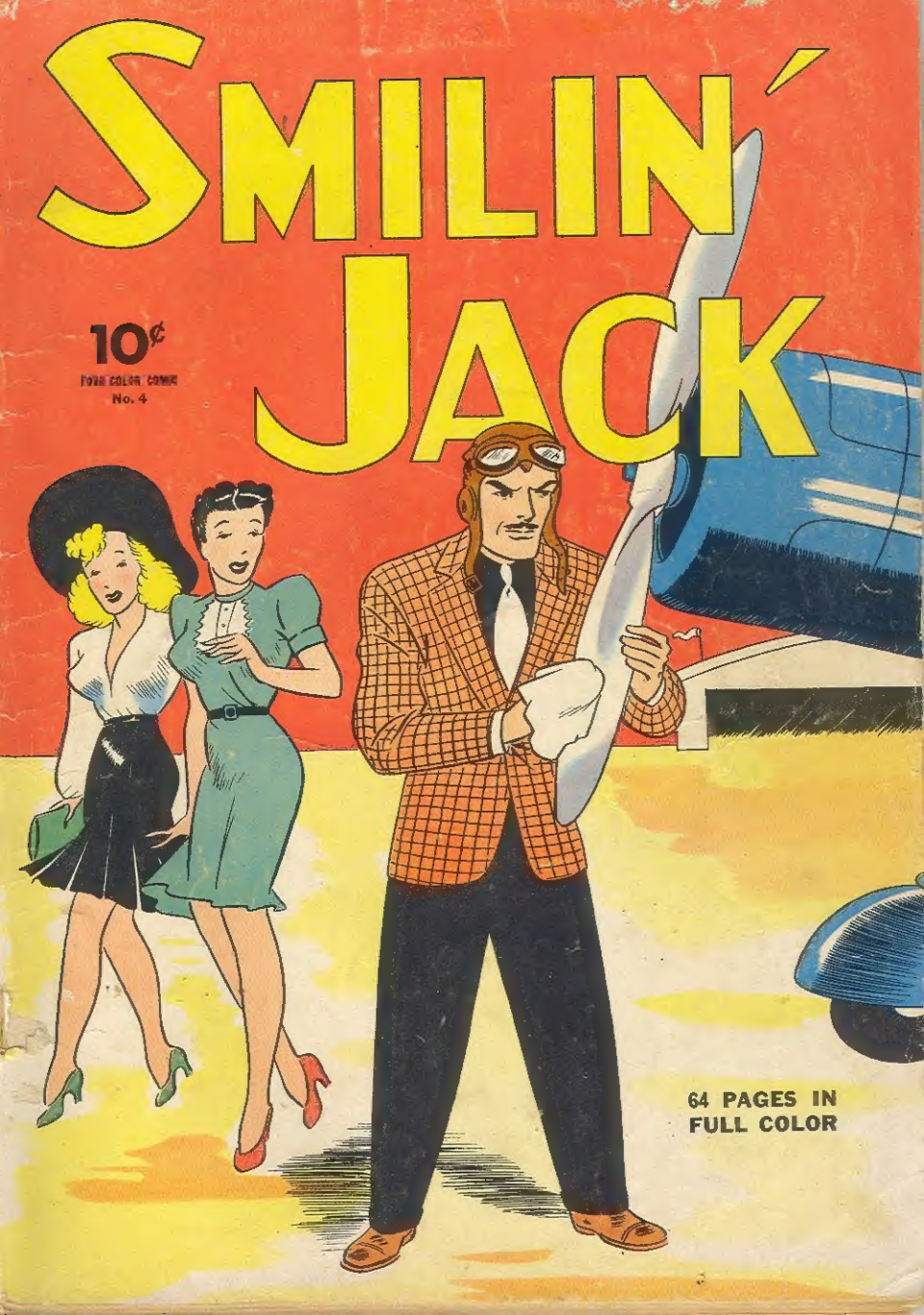
FOUR COLOR COMIC
No. 4



64 PAGES IN
FULL COLOR

SMILIN' JACK

—SYNOPSIS—

WITH COTTON AT THE CONTROLS, JACK'S PLANE FLEW DANGEROUSLY CLOSE TO MANY PEOPLE AND WAS FINALLY WRECKED, CRAWLING AWAY FROM THE WRECKAGE COTTON LIED TO DIXIE ABOUT HIS BRUISES. THE DEPT. OF COMMERCE HELD JACK RESPONSIBLE AND TOOK AWAY HIS PILOT'S LICENSE. WITH NO JOB, AND NO PILOT'S LICENSE, JACK IS FURTHER DISCOURAGED WHEN HIS SISTER TELLS HIM..

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SMILIN' JACK

LOOK! THIS AMERICAN PAPER STATES THAT SMILIN' JACK, THE NOTED AVIATOR, HAS LOST HIS LICENSE--MM-M! THERE'S THE ANSWER TO OUR NEED FOR A PILOT!
BUT AT THIS INSTANT IN A DESOLATE MEXICAN VILLAGE
----BUT MY DARLING BLOODSOE, WHAT IS WRONG WITH THE CO-PILOT I NOW HAVE?
ER--SLITZ WAS FORCED TO POLISH HIM OFF! HE-DOUBLE-CROSSED US---AND BESIDES HE WAS BECOMING TOO FOND OF YOU, TEEKEELA, MY SWEET!
SLITZ, MY RIGHT HAND MAN, TAKES THE PLACE OF MY MISSING ARM NOBLY!
TEEKEELA, YOU FLY TO THE STATES AND HIRE THIS SMILIN' JACK--TELL HIM WE TRANSPORT GOLD IN MEXICO--WE'LL FEEL HIM OUT BEFORE WE LET HIM IN ON THE REAL NATURE OF OUR WORK!
BUT, BARON, SUPPOSE HE REFUSES OUR OFFER?
THAT'S WHERE YOUR CHARMS COME IN, MY DEAR--TURN THEM ON JUST ENOUGH TO GET HIM--- BUT SEE THAT IT GOES NO FURTHER!
SMILIN' JACK, TEEKEELA IS MY NAME--I'VE COME TO OFFER YOU A JOB FLYING---
FLYING? SAY, ARE YOU TRYING TO BE FUNNY??
WAIT! I KNOW YOU HAVE NO U.S PILOT'S LICENSE --BUT THIS JOB IS IN MEXICO-- FLYING GOLD!
THAT SOUNDS GREAT---BUT MEXICO! I CAN'T GO AWAY AN' LEAVE MY SISTER!
WE NEED GOOD PILOTS LIKE YOU--I'M PREPARED TO GIVE YOU $500. ADVANCE SALARY--
SAY! WITH THAT DOUGH I COULD PAY TH' FIRST QUARTER OF SISTER'S TUITION IN A PRIVATE SCHOOL!
--OKAY, IT'S A DEAL!
GOOD! YOU WON'T BE SORRY--
--I HOPE!
AH SHOULD GO MEET JACK'S SISTAH--AH'D LIKE TO SEE JACK, TOO --AH SHOULDN'T STAY ANGRY AT HIM FO' ACCUSIN' COTTON OF STEALIN' HIS PLANE--
AH KNOW COTTON WAGN'T GUILTY--- BUT IT DID LOOK SUSPICIOUS---AH OWE JACK AN APOLOGY! HE'S A TRUE FRIEND!
HELLO, JACK--AH WANT TO TELL YOU HOW--
PARDON ME, JACK--MY PLANE IS READY--WE MUST LEAVE!
OH--ER--HELLO, DIXIE-- I'D LIKE YOU TO MEET TEEKEELA-- SHE GAVE ME A JOB AN' IS FLYING ME TO MEXICO--- WHAT WAS IT YOU WANTED TO TELL ME?

NOTHIN'!
--BUT, DIXIE--I MUST FLY TO MEXICO WITH THAT GIRL--I'VE GOTTA HAVE THAT JOB SO I CAN SEND MY SISTER TO A PRIVATE SCHOOL--
--IF I DON'T GET HER AWAY FROM HERE SHE'S SURE TO MARRY COTTON AN'--
OH! SO YOU DON'T THINK MAH BROTHAH'S GOOD ENOUGH FO' YOUAH SISTAH--?--
--WELL, MAYBE YOU AREN'T GOOD ENOUGH FO HIS SISTAH ---GO AHEAD AN' FLY TO MEXICO WITH THAT--THAT WOMAN---GOODBYE!
B-B-- --BUT, DIXIE--
WOMEN! WOMEN! THEY'RE TH' MOST UNREASONABLE PEOPLE IN TH' WORLD!!
WE'RE NOT ALL UNREASONABLE-- MAYBE YOU NEVER MET THE RIGHT GIRL
JACK, YOU WILL BE TEEKEELA'S CO-PILOT WHILE YOU'RE GETTING THE HANG OF HOW WE FLY "GOLD" HERE IN MEXICO!
OKAY, BARON BLOODSOE!
WHAT DO YOU THINK OF OUR NEW PILOT, BLOODSOE MY SWEET, ?
HE'LL PROBABLY LAST AS LONG AS MOST OF OUR PILOTS, IF HE DOESN'T PRY INTO THE SECRETS OF OUR BUSINESS, TEEKEELA!
HE DEFINITELY WON'T LIVE LONG IF HE BECOMES TOO FOND OF YOU, MY SWEET--- --AND VICE VERSA!
WHY, BARON, MY DARLING--YOU KNOW YOU ARE MY ONLY LOVE!
I DON'T LIKE TH' LOOKS OF TH' CROWD HERE--IF I HADN'T ALREADY USED MY ADVANCE SALARY TO SEND MY SIS TO SCHOOL I'D BEAT IT---
HELLO, HANDSOME--!
--JACK, YOU LOOK LONELY--LET'S STROLL IN THE MOONLIGHT-- --JUST YOU AND I--- THE OTHERS HAVE ALL RETIRED!
YOU MUST MEET ME IN THE MOONLIGHT OFTEN, JACK!
NOW LISTEN, TEEKEELA --I APPRECIATE YOUR GETTING ME A JOB --- BUT GET THIS STRAIGHT--I'M NOT YOUR GIGOLO!
WISELY SAID, MY GOOD MAN! YOU ARE SUPERBLY INTELLIGENT TO WITHSTAND THE TEMPTATIONS OF MY LOVELY TEEKEELA!
SLITZ! COME HERE! MY SWEETHEART HAS SHOWN SIGNS OF UNFAITHFULNESS AGAIN!

CRACK!
EXCELLENT! I NEVER DID BETTER WHEN I HAD MY OWN RIGHT HAND !!
?!
WHY, YOU RATS! I WON'T STAND BY AND SEE ANY WOMAN TREATED LIKE THAT!
STOP, JACK! I DEEPLY ADMIRE YOUR CHIVALRY --BUT DO NOT FORCE US TO END YOUR CAREER--WE NEED YOU!
TEEKEELA! GET UP, MY SWEET! YOU LOOK SO UNLADY-LIKE !!
PREPARE THE PLANE--WE HAVE A RUSH ORDER---YOU AND JACK MUST FLY A LOAD TONIGHT--BUT DON'T LOOK SO PLEASED---
--I'M SENDING SLITZ ALONG AS CHAPERONE ! THE "FACIAL" HE JUST GAVE YOU IS ONLY A SAMPLE OF WHAT HE'LL DO TO YOUR PRETTY LITTLE FACE IF YOU LET YOUR AFFECTIONS WANDER AGAIN, TEEKEELA, MY SWEET !!
WHERE IS THIS GOLD MINE, ANYWAY--EVEN IF I AM JUST TH' CO-PILOT, I'D LIKE TO KNOW WHERE I'M FLYIN' TO ?
A WISE SOLDIER NEVER QUESTIONS HIS GENERAL---- JUST STAY ON THE COURSE I GAVE YOU!
WELL, HERE'S OUR DESTINATION, JACK ---GIVE ME THE CONTROLS---I'LL MAKE THE LANDING!
SLITZ, YOU AND JACK REMAIN HERE IN THE CONTROL CABIN--- KEEP THE MOTOR RUNNING WHILE I CHECK THE LOADING!
LITTLE DOES JACK REALIZE THAT HE IS ACROSS THE BORDER AND THAT THE CARGO HE'S TAKING ON IS NOT GOLD!
AS JACK AND CREW HEAD BACK FOR MEXICO, A U.S. BORDER PATROL PLANE APPEARS IN HOT PURSUIT----
HEY, TEEKEELA! WHAT'S TH' IDEA OF SHOVIN' TH' THROTTLE WIDE OPEN---YOU'LL BURN UP TH' MOTOR !?
GIVE ME THOSE CONTROLS, YOU FOOL--THERE'S A PLANE AFTER US ---SLITZ, MAN THE GUNS!
HEY! WHAT IS THIS ?
A BOR---- I MEAN A BANDIT PLANE IS AFTER OUR GOLD!-- FEED 'EM LEAD, SLITZ !!
IN AN EFFORT TO SHAKE THE BORDER PATROL PLANE, TEEKEELA DOES AN IMMELMANN TURN

SMILIN' JACK

WITH THE SKILL OF A WAR ACE, AND THE ADVANTAGE OF A FASTER PLANE, TEEKEELA SOON OUT-DISTANCES A BORDER PATROL PLANE--
SAY, TEEKEELA--FROM WHAT LITTLE I SAW OF THAT BANDIT PLANE, IT LOOKED LIKE TH' KIND TH' BORDER PATROL USE ---SAY! WE WEREN'T ACROSS TH' BORDER, WERE WE?
OF COURSE NOT!
WHY ARE YOU LANDING AT THE SEACOAST?
THIS IS WHERE WE SHIP THE "GOLD" FROM---BUT IF YOU'RE WISE YOU'LL STOP ASKING QUESTIONS!
OKAY! I'LL HELP WITH TH' UNLOADING--
CAREFUL YOU DON'T SPILL THE "GOLD"!
--BUT JACK TRIPS--
GOLD MY EYE! IT'S MUNITIONS--- SMUGGLED OUTTA TH' STATES TO BE SHIPPED TO WARRING NATIONS!
JACK, SINCE YOU'VE LEARNED THAT WE FLY SMUGGLED MUNITIONS--YOU HAVE NO ALTERNATIVE OTHER THAN TO JOIN UP WITH US----
I'M NOT INTERESTED ---LET ME GO!!
OH, NO! YOU "KNOW TOO MUCH"---BUT I WILL GIVE YOU A CHANCE TO COOL OFF AND THINK IT OVER--- IN MY PRIVATE JAIL!
PRIVATE JAIL, HUH? WELL, THAT WON'T MAKE ME CHANGE MY MIND!
NO? WELL, IF IT DOESN'T PERHAPS SLITZ, MY PRIVATE SHERIFF, WILL!!
TEEKEELA, THE WAY JACK ACTS, I DON'T BELIEVE HE'LL JOIN US---
OH YES, HE WILL--WAIT'LL I TALK TO HIM --I KNOW HOW TO CHANGE HIS MIND!
JACK, I KNOW HOW BADLY YOU NEED MONEY--IF YOU'LL ONLY LISTEN TO REASON, WE'LL MAKE YOU RICH!

NO! I'LL HAVE NO PART OF MONEY THAT'S MADE FROM SMUGGLED GOODS--I'M LOYAL TO MY GOVERNMENT!
WERE THEY LOYAL TO YOU? THEY TOOK AWAY YOUR PILOT'S LICENSE--YOUR ONLY MEANS OF BREAD AND BUTTER!!
THEY'LL NEVER LET YOU FLY IN THE STATES AGAIN--AND YOU TALK OF LOYALTY--YOU OWE THIS CHANCE TO YOURSELF, BIG BOY!
JACK, I LIKE YOU--BUT IF YOU DON'T JOIN US, I HATE TO THINK OF WHAT SLITZ WILL DO TO YOUR HANDSOME FACE!
SH-H--LISTEN, TEEKEELA, IF YOU LIKE ME SO MUCH, HOW ABOUT HELPIN' ME ESCAPE?
OH, NO! I LIKE YOU--BUT NOT THAT MUCH! I'VE MY OWN FACE TO THINK OF---
--ANOTHER THING--WHO'LL LOOK AFTER YOUR SISTER IF YOU'RE DEAD---- WHO'LL KEEP HER FROM MARRYING THAT NO-GOOD BOY YOU TOLD ME ABOUT?
NO! JILL WILL NEVER MARRY THAT HEEL, COTTON!!
IT DOESN'T MAKE MUCH DIFFERENCE WHAT HAPPENS TO ME--BUT MY SISTER--- THAT'S ALL I HAVE TO LIVE FOR---I'VE GOTTA SEE THAT SHE GETS A BREAK!!
MM-- HE'S WEAKENING!
I GUESS I SHOULD FLY FOR BLOODSOE--SO I'LL BE ABLE TO KEEP MY SISTER IN THAT STRICT GIRLS' SCHOOL WHERE SHE CAN'T SEE THAT HEEL, COTTON!
MEANTIME
JACK PUT ME ON TH' BLACK LIST AT JILL'S SCHOOL--AH CAN'T SEE HER OR EVEN TALK TO HER OVER TH' PHONE---
--LUCKY, JILL AN' AH MADE UP SOME SIGNALS BEFO' SHE WENT THERE!
OH, JILL----- LOOK! THAT PLANE MADE NINE LOOPS!
OH--THAT'S COTTON--THAT MEANS FOR ME TO SLIP OUT AT NINE O'CLOCK TONIGHT---
---NOW HE'S DOING A VERTICAL BANK THAT MEANS I'M TO MEET HIM ON THE BANK OF THE RIVER!
JACK, BLOODSOE WANTS YOUR ANSWER--AND SLITZ IS GETTING IMPATIENT, TOO--- SLITZ IS AFRAID YOU WILL JOIN AND HE WON'T GET TO TRY OUT HIS NEW KNIFE---

--WHAT IS YOUR ANSWER ?
I'VE THOUGHT IT OVER VERY CAREFULLY--AFTER WHAT MY COUNTRY DID TO ME I DON'T OWE IT ANY ALLEGIANCE !
I'D BE A FOOL TO DIE WHEN I CAN HAVE ALL TH' MONEY AN' HEALTH A GUY COULD ASK FOR-- BY MERELY CASTING ASIDE A FEW MEANINGLESS IDEALS--
--TEEKEELA, TELL TH' BARON THAT I'M A MEMBER!
GOOD BOY!!
BARON, I'M SORRY IT TOOK ME SO LONG TO SEE TH' LIGHT --I'M READY TO START TO WORK!
GOOD! WE'RE FLYING A LOAD TONIGHT!
THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK! YOU WERE SAPS TO FALL FOR MY STORY!!
SLITZ SLASHES AT JACK--BUT, LIKE A FLASH, JACK DUCKS AND GRABS HIM---
SWISH
DESPERATELY, JACK RAN FOR BLOODSOE'S PLANE--BUT SLITZ PURSUED HIM---
GOOD WORK, SLITZ---NOW, JACK, MY CLEVER DOUBLE-CROSSER, SLITZ WILL SHOW YOU HOW WE BRAND A DESERTER! TIE HIM UP!!
COME, TEEKEELA---- SLITZ, BEING SOMEWHAT OF AN ARTIST, IS TEMPERAMENTAL.. HE DOESN'T LIKE ANY ONE LOOKING OVER HIS SHOULDER WHILE HE WORKS!!
BARON-- SLITZ ISN'T REALLY GOING TO PUT THE "SIGN" ON JACK'S FACE, IS HE?
WHY, NO, TEEKEELA, MY DARLING--
--SLITZ IS JUST SHOWING HIM SOME ETCHINGS!

SYNOPSIS

THROUGH AN ACCIDENT, JACK LEARNS THAT THE SO-CALLED "GOLD" HE IS FLYING FOR THE BARON IS MUNITIONS THAT ARE BEING SMUGGLED OUT OF THIS COUNTRY. JACK REFUSES TO COOPERATE WITH THE BARON, AND TRIES TO ESCAPE. HE IS CAUGHT, AND SLITZ CARVES A HIDEOUS MARK ON HIS LEFT CHEEK.

JILL HONEY--- IT'S SHO' SWEET OF YOU TO MEET ME AGAIN TONIGHT!
I FEEL TERRIBLE--SLIPPING OUT LIKE THIS AFTER JACK'S SPENT SO MUCH TO SEND ME TO SCHOOL ---BUT, COTTON DARLING---

--NOT SEEING YOU MAKES ME HATE SCHOOL--- AND THE TEACHERS ARE SO STRICT--- ---IT'S---IT'S UNBEARABLE!
THEY CAN'T DO THAT TO MAH DARLIN' --AH'LL TAKE YOU AWAY---- WE'LL GET MARRIED--- RIGHT NOW!

OH, COTTON!! I MAY BE CRAZY--BUT LET'S GO!
ER---GULP--GEE, JILL---AH FORGOT--- AH'VE A BIG FLYIN' JOB, STARTING TO-NIGHT--BUT AH'LL COME FOR YOU, HONEY---SOON!

LATER
GOSH---AH DIDN'T EXPECT JILL TO ACCEPT ME TONIGHT---AH DIDN'T EVEN HAVE TWO BUCKS FOR A LICENSE---MM-M-- --LET'S SEE--HOW CAN AH GET SOME MONEY OFFA DIXIE ??

JACK, JOIN UP WITH US BEFORE SLITZ CARVES YOUR RIGHT CHEEK WITH A HIDEOUS MARK LIKE THE ONE ON YOUR LEFT CHEEK!
NO! I WON'T FLY SMUGGLED GOODS FOR YOU, NO MATTER WHAT HE DOES!
IT'S USELESS TO WASTE ANY MORE TIME ON THAT STUBBORN FOOL---
DOES THAT MEAN SLITZ IS TO DISPOSE OF JACK IN THE USUAL MANNER?
NO! I HAVE A BETTER PLAN--ONE THAT WILL REMOVE ALL TRACES OF EVIDENCE--JACK IS TO "WALK THE PLANK!"
WALK THE PLANK? WHAT---
YES--ONLY THE "PLANK" WILL BE THE WING OF OUR PLANE--AND HE'S TO WALK OFF IT AT 5000 FEET ABOVE THE MOUNTAINS!!
COME, JACK, YOU'RE GOING FOR A NICE PLANE "RIDE"--
HERE, SLITZ, WE MUST WEAR PARACHUTES--A FORCED LANDING IN THOSE MOUNTAINS WOULD BE FATAL!
SAY, IF THIS IS SUCH A DANGEROUS TRIP, HOW ABOUT A "CHUTE" FOR ME?
WHY, JACK--ANY ONE WITH YOUR IDEALS DOESN'T NEED A PARACHUTE ---YOU'RE SUCH AN ANGEL YOU CAN JUST USE YOUR OWN WINGS!
GET GOING, TEEKEELA ---SHOVE JACK OUT AT 5000 FEET---BUT WAIT! WHY KILL HIM INSTANTLY ---DROP HIM FROM ABOUT ONE HUNDRED FEET----
--THAT'LL BREAK EVERY BONE IN YOUR BODY--BUT CHANCES ARE, YOU'LL LIVE FOR HOURS--AND HAVE TIME TO REALIZE WHAT A FOOL YOU WERE NOT TO ACCEPT MY GENEROUS OFFER---
WELL, JACK-- HERE'S WHERE YOU GET OFF! THESE ARE THE MOST JAGGED MOUNTAINS I CAN FIND!
TEEKEELA, YOU CAN'T GET AWAY WITH IT, YOU'LL GET CAUGHT---YOU'LL FRY FOR THIS!
WE'RE ONLY ABOUT FIFTY FEET ABOVE THE MOUNTAINS--THIS'LL GIVE JACK THE PROLONGED DEATH THE BARON WISHES FOR---OKAY, SLITZ, FORCE JACK OUT----
--NO--WAIT, SLITZ!--JACK'LL GO THROUGH SUCH TORTURE IF HE ISN'T KILLED INSTANTLY --THAT'S MEAN --I'M GOING UP 2000 FEET ABOVE THE MOUNTAINS--THEN---
--IF JACK'S PUSHED OUT AT THAT HEIGHT HE'S SURE TO BE KILLED INSTANTLY--AN' I'LL FEEL MUCH BETTER IF I GIVE HIM A DECENT DEATH!!

SMILIN' JACK

OKAY, SLITZ--WE'RE HIGH ENOUGH NOW-- FORCE JACK OUT!!
?!
ONE "CHUTE'S HARDLY ENOUGH FOR TWO--BUT IT'S A HECK OF A LOT BETTER THAN NO 'CHUTE!"
IT'S NO USE TRYIN' TO PRY ME OFF, SLITZ--- DROP THAT KNIFE BEFORE I SHOVE IT DOWN YOUR THROAT!!
THEY PLUMMET EARTHWARD, SLITZ HAS THE ADVANTAGE OF THE FIGHT SINCE JACK HAS ONLY ONE FREE ARM ~~~~HE MUST HOLD ON WITH THE OTHER~
SLITZ, YOU FOOL! STOP TRYIN' TO STAB ME--YOU'RE CUTTING TH' PARACHUTE HARNESS - WE'LL... BOTH BE KILLED!!
BUT AT THIS INSTANT THEY ARE THROWN APART AS THEY HIT ~~~
WHAM!
OW!! WHAT A JOLT! IT'S A MIRACLE I DIDN'T BREAK A LEG!
SLITZ SCRAMBLES OUT OF HIS "CHUTE" HARNESS AS JACK DASHES AFTER HIM~~
HERE'S WHERE I SETTLE WITH YOU FOR EVERYTHING YOU'VE DONE TO ME, YOU RAT!
-YOU'RE A BRAVE FIGHTER WHEN YOU'VE GOT A KNIFE --BUT I SHOULDN'T EXPECT A YELLOW DOG LIKE YOU TO FIGHT WITHOUT ONE!
---PUFF---PUFF----IT'S NO USE--I CAN'T CATCH HIM-- -HE'S AS FAST AS A COYOTE- -
--BUT HE'S PUBLIC ENEMY NO.1 ON MY LIST---- I'LL GET HIM YET!!

TEEKEELA SPOTTED SLITZ ON A PLATEAU, LANDED AND PICKED HIM UP--THEN--
LOOK, SLITZ! THERE'S JACK! GIVE HIM TH' WORKS!!
RAT-TAT-TAT-TAT
WHILE THE PLANE TURNS TO RESUME ITS ATTACK, JACK REACHES A NARROW CANYON---
WE'LL NEVER FIND JACK NOW--WELL, IN A WAY I'M GLAD HE ESCAPED---BUT THE BARON---
SLITZ! WE MUST TELL THE BARON THAT JACK IS DEAD!
YES!
GOOD! I SHUDDER TO THINK WHAT BLOODSOE WILL DO IF HE LEARNS THAT WE FAILED!
WELL, HERE I AM WALKING MY LEGS OFF TO REACH THE BORDER SO I CAN GET HOME---BUT FOR WHAT?
DIXIE WON'T WANT TO SEE ME--WE'RE AT OUTS--I'VE NO JOB--AN' NO ONE WILL WANT TO GIVE ME ONE--WITH THIS AWFUL "BRAND" ON MY LEFT CHEEK!
SLITZ, WE MUST STICK TOGETHER ON OUR STORY! BLOODSOE WILL KILL US IF HE LEARNS WE FAILED!
YES, TEEKEELA!
BARON, DARLING, YOUR EXECUTIONERS REPORT A SUCCESSFUL FLIGHT---EVERY BONE IN JACK'S BODY MUST HAVE BROKEN WHEN HE HIT---
--WE KEPT CIRCLING AND WATCHED HIM WRITHE AND SQUIRM WHILE HE DIED---
WHAT'S THIS? SLITZ SHAKES HIS HEAD NO! EXPLAIN THIS, SLITZ!
TEEKEELA, MY DEAR ACCORDING TO SLITZ, YOU DISOBEYED ORDERS YOU TRIED TO HELP JACK ESCAPE!
NO! SLITZ IS LYING--LET ME EXPLAIN---IT'S TRUE I FLEW HIGHER THAN YOU ORDERED. BUT--
---I DIDN'T WANT TO SEE JACK SUFFER! I WAS ONLY TRYING TO KILL HIM INSTANTLY!!
OH! SO THAT'S IT! YOU LOVE HIM--YOU DISOBEDIENT--UNFAITHFUL---

SMILIN' JACK

WHEN BLOODSOE LEARNED OF JACK'S ESCAPE, HE HAD TEEKEELA FLOGGED BY SLITZ-- THEN BLOODSOE, HIMSELF, REPRIMANDED SLITZ WITH THE BUTT OF A GUN –
THIS'LL TEACH YOU WEAKLINGS TO FAIL ME-----
CRACK
I'VE REALLY NOTHING TO GO HOME FOR EXCEPT TO SEE MY SISTER, JILL --I HOPE SHE'S OVER HER INFATUATION FOR THAT HEEL, COTTON!
--SAY! THERE'S OLD MAN MOSE! TH' ONE PERSON IN TH' WORLD THAT CAN PROVE I WAS FISHING WHEN I WAS ACCUSED OF DRUNKEN FLYING!
MOSE! I THOUGHT YOU WERE DROWNED.
HELLO, MISTUH SMILIN' JACK- DE RIVER WASH AWAY MAH SHACK - SO I JES STARTED TRAVELIN'---
WELL, YOU'RE GONNA TRAVEL LOTS MORE! YOU'RE GO'N' TO HELP ME GET BACK MY PILOT'S LICENSE!
MOSE, TELL TH' "DEPARTMENT" ABOUT ME BEIN' NEAR YOUR SHACK TH DAY BEFORE TH' FLOOD!
YAS SUH, MISTUH SMILIN' JACK AH'LL TELL 'EM ABOUT YOU BUYIN WORMS FROM ME, TOO
LATER-
AN' DAT AM DE LAWD'S TRUTH!
GOOD! WE'LL RE-ISSUE YOUR PILOT'S LICENSE, JACK!
SWELL! BUT THERE'S SOMETHING I WANT TO TELL YOU-AT'S ABOUT AIR-SMUGGLERS!
LATER
AN ASTONISHING STORY, JACK! KNOWING THOSE RATS AS YOU DO, YOU WOULD BE A VALUABLE ASSET---
TO THE BORDER PATROL -I CAN GET YOU THE JOB IF YOU'RE INTERESTED!
WOW! CHRISTMAS MAY BE OVER FOR MOST FOLKS BUT, MISTER YOU'RE SANTA CLAUS TO ME!!

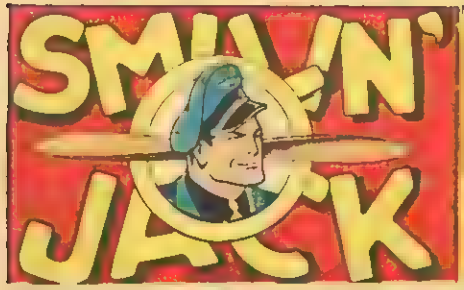
SMILIN' JACK

HERE'S JILL'S SCHOOL I'LL DROP N AN' SEE HER BEFORE I LEAVE FOR MY NEW JOB!
BUT AT THIS INSTANT ON THE BACK WALL OF THE SCHOOL
JUMP, HONEY -EVAHTHING IS ALL SET FO OUR AIR-LOPEMENT!
OH, COTTON! I'VE BEEN SO EXCITED SINCE I GOT YOUR SIGNAL!
YOU SAY YOU'VE RENTED A PLANE AND WE'RE GONNA FLY TO CUPID CORNERS TO BE MARRIED?
YES! AH PUT OVAH A "BIG DEAL" -- AH'VE LOTS OF MONEY FO' OUR HONEYMOON--JUST THINK WE'LL SOON BE MAN AN WIFE...
I LOVE YOU MORE THAN ANYTHING COTTON-- BUT I'M - I'M-- SCARED THIS IS THE BIGGEST STEP A G.R.L CAN TAKE!
SURE-- BUT DON'T WORRY, HONEY ... YOU'LL NEVAH BE SORRY YOU MARRIED ME!
WHAT!? YOU SAY YOU CAN'T FIND MY SISTER, JILL!!
NO WE'VE LOOKED ALL OVER THE SCHOOL --THERE'S A RUMOR AMONG THE GIRLS THAT SHE'S ELOPED!
YES, COTTON RENTED A PLANE AN' SAID SOMETHING ABOUT FLYIN' TO CUPID CORNERS!
HE DID!? GET ME TH' FASTEST PLANE ON TH' FIELD!
I MUST CATCH THEM! I JUST CAN'T LET MY SISTER MARRY THAT NO GOOD COTTON!!
OH, MY GOSH! MEBBE I'M NOT TOO LATE!
HEY, YOU! DID A PLANE WITH A YOUNG COUPLE LAND HERE?
YES. A FEW MINUTES AGO- -THEY ASKED WHERE TH' MARRYING PARSON LIVES!
WELL, WHERE DOES HE LIVE? HEY, TAXI!!
DRIVE LIKE---!!
---AND I NOW PRONOUNCE YOU MAN AND WIFE!
--WHY, YOU SNEAKIN' NO GOOD'- YOU STOLE MY SISTER --I'M GONNA GIVE YOU TH' BEATING OF YOUR LIFE!!
SON! CALM YOURSELF-- ---CALM YOURSELF! IT'S TOO LATE NOW!

OH, JILL— WHY DID YOU DO IT?
JACK- PLEASE TRY TO UNDERSTAND--I LOVE COTTON---I KNOW HE'S GOOD!
YOU CAN'T EXPLAIN LOVE-THEY'LL MAKE A GO OF IT---I MARRY LOTS OF YOUNG FOLKS, I TRY TO FORGIVE THEM!
THAT'S HARD TO DO, BUT--
--I WILL WISH YOU LUCK, JILL--YOU'LL NEED PLENTY!
OH, JACK! I JUST KILL ME TO SEE THAT AWFUL BRAND ON THE LEFT SIDE OF YOUR FACE!
FORGET IT, JILL- IT'S A MEMO TO REMIND ME OF TH' DATE I HAVE WITH A CERTAIN BORDER RAT!!
TEEKEELA, NO DOUBT JACK HAS TOLD THE BORDER PATROL ABOUT US--BUT WE'VE REALLY NO WORRIES SINCE WE'VE MOVED OUR BASE---
--BESIDES, WE'RE GOING TO DO OUR FUTURE FLYING IN ONE OF THE NEW STRATOSPHERE AIRLINERS WHERE WE'LL FLY SO HIGH THEY'LL NEVER CATCH US!
WE'RE GOING TO EXPAND! WE'LL SMUGGLE ALIENS INTO THE STATES AND BRING BACK MUNITIONS ON RETURN TRIPS!
--BUT, BARON, --THOSE BIG PLANES COST OVER $200,000
DON'T BE SILLY, BARON--WHO IS GOING TO GIVE US A $200,000 STRATOSPHERE AIRLINER?
WHY, THE AIRLINE THAT OWNS IT--- ONLY THEY DON'T KNOW IT---
EXPLAIN YOURSELF, BARON!
YOU AND I ARE GOING TO BOARD ONE AS PASSENGERS AND SIMPLY FLY AWAY WITH IT!
THE NEW STRATO-PLANES HAVE SEALED CABINS AND USE COMPRESSED OXYGEN SO HUMANS CAN BREATHE NORMALLY AT HIGH ALTITUDES---
--IN THE AIRTIGHT CABIN WE WILL SLIP ON THESE NEW TYPE GAS MASKS AND OPEN A DEADLY GAS BOMB--ASPHYXIATING ALL ON BOARD--WHILE YOU TAKE OVER THE CONTROLS!
OUR FAKE PASSPORTS GOT US IN TO THE STATES WITHOUT A HITCH, BLOODSOE DARLING!
YES, TEEKEELA, IT'S BEEN A LONG DRIVE, BUT WE SHOULD REACH THE AIR TERMINAL SOON!
WE MUST BE NEAR NOW BARON--THERE'S THE STRATO-PLANE DESCENDING TO LAND..
YES--LITTLE DOES THAT HAPPY-GO-LUCKY CREW REALIZE THAT ON THEIR NEXT TRIP THEY'LL BE BREATHING GAS INSTEAD OF SWEET OXYGEN!

SMILIN' JACK

ALL OUT, FOLKS. THIS IS TH' END OF TH' LINE!
GEE, IT'S NICE TO BE HOME- AH'L SURE ENJOY SLEEPIN' IN MAH OWN BED AGAIN!
WHY, LOOK--- THERE'S COTTON AN' JILL--
HELLO, DIXIE--- CONGRATULATE ME, WE--JILL AND AH GOT MARRIED!
OH, BROTHAH YOU SHOULDN'T! JILL'S SWELL. BUT YOU'VE NO JOB- HOW'LL YOU TAKE CARE OF HER?
OH, WE'AH GONNA LIVE WITH YOU TILL AH GET A JOB SO'S PLENTY OF ROOM IN YOUR APARTMENT--
JILL AN' AH WILL TAKE YOUR ROOM--- YOU CAN SLEEP ON TH' COT IN TH' HALL!
!!!
HELLO, DIXIE--- ARE YOU STILL SORE AT YOUR OL' SPARR N' PARTNER?
WHY, JACK--YOU KNOW AH CAN'T STAY ANGRY AT YOU! HOW'VE YOU ---- O OH! WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR LEFT CHEEK?
IT'S JUST A SOUVENIR I GOT FROM A BORDER RAT--- BUT SKIP THAT --DO YOU STILL LOVE ME?
OF COSE AH DO
COTTON, NOW THAT WE'RE MARRIED---- SHOULDN'T YOU TRY TO FIND A JOB?
AH'VE GOT A LOT OF BIG DEALS LINED UP, JILL!
HUMPHF--WHY SHOULD AH BOTHER TO WORK--- JILL'S BROTHER, JACK, IS GIVIN' HER MONEY-- AN' MY SIS, DIXIE, LETS US LIVE IN HER APARTMENT!
WELL, JACK, TH' STRATO-AIRLINER AH'M HOSTESS ON WILL BE LEAVIN' SOON!
I MUST LEAVE TOO-- I HAFTA FLY A PLANE TO TH' BORDER PATROL UNIT WHERE I'M STATIONED!
JUST BEFORE DIXIE'S AIRLINER LEFT, TEEKEELA AND BLOODSOE BOARDED IT---
TEEKEELA, THIS GIANT SHIP WILL BE A BIG HELP TO OUR SMUGGLING BUSINESS!
YES, BLOODSOE-- I'LL ENJOY FLYING IT TOO--WE MUST NOT FAIL IN OUR PLAN TO STEAL IT!
HOSTESS, ARE WE IN THE STRATOSPHERE YET?
ALMOST--WE'RE UP TO 30,000 FEET --- WE'RE BREATHING COMPRESSED OXYGEN IN THIS "SEALED" CABIN!

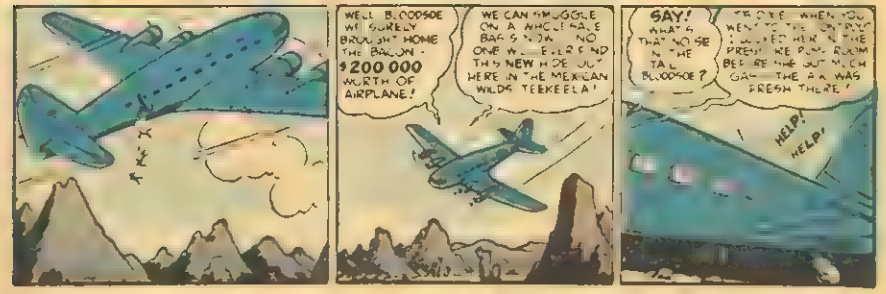


SYNOPSIS

JACK HAS REGAINED HIS PILOT'S LICENSE AND IS NOW FLYING FOR THE U.S. BORDER PATROL. LITTLE DOES HE KNOW THAT HIGH ABOVE THE CLOUDS, A STRATOSPHERE AIRLINER, OF WHICH DIXIE IS HOSTESS, IS ABOUT TO BECOME A VICTIM OF A BRUTAL PLOT PLANNED BY JACK'S OLD ENEMY, BLOODSOE.

THE OXYGEN SUPPLY IS GREAT IN THIS SEALED CABIN. HOW HIGH ARE WE, HOSTESS?
ABOUT 30,000 FEET, SIR.
TEEKEELA, BEND DOWN BEHIND THE SEAT AND SLIP ON YOUR MASK--I'M GOING TO OPEN THE POISON GAS---
THESE FAULTY FUMES ARE DOING THEIR WORK
ONLONGS OUS

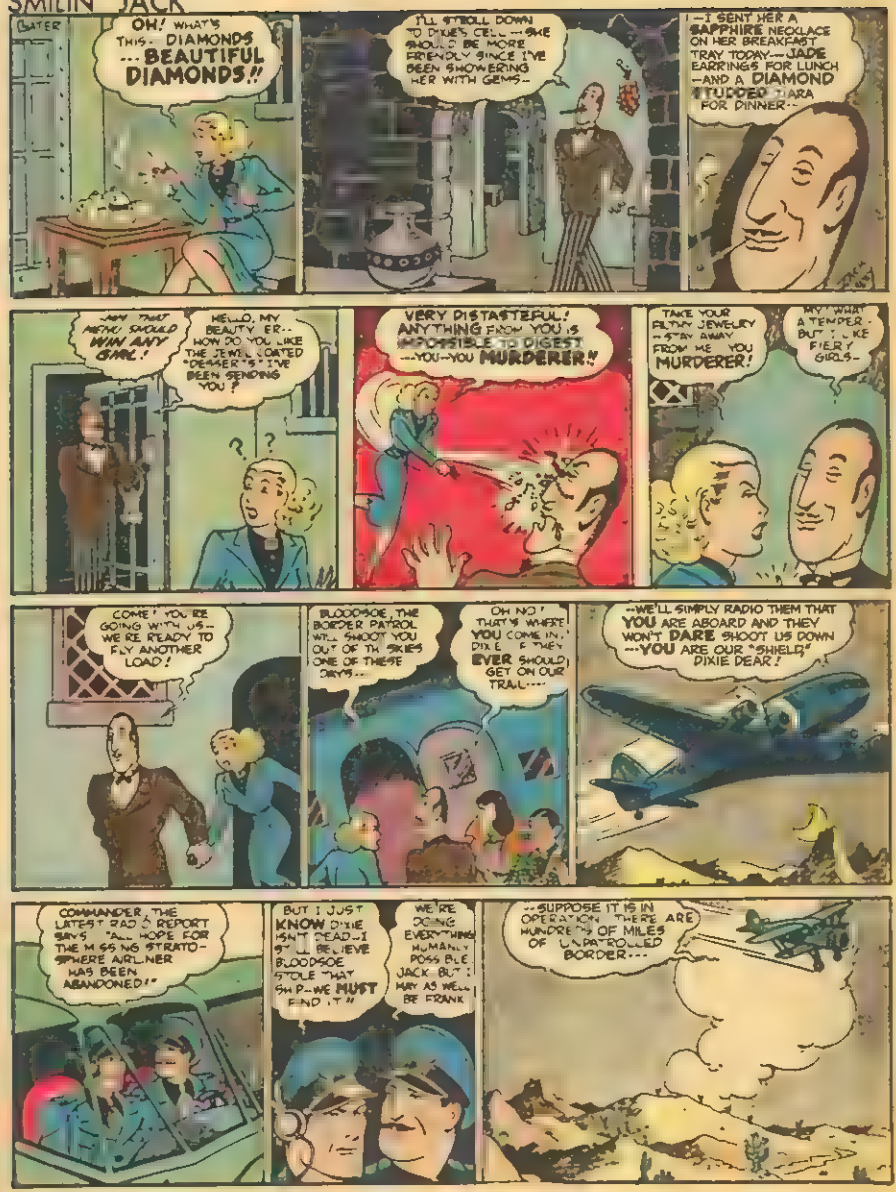
TEEKEELA' RUSH FORWARD AND TAKE OVER THE CONTROLS WHILE I MAKE SURE THAT NO ONE REMAINS ALIVE!
TEEKEELA THE
OKAY BLOODSOE'
ABOUT 15,000 FEET AND FLY TO THE MOUNTAINS!
THE DISAPPEARANCE OF
REMAIN A MYSTERY FOR MANY A MOON...
HERE'S THE MOST
SPOT IN THE ROCKIES!
THEY'LL NEVER BE FOUND IN THESE SNOW CAPPED MOUNTAINS!


WELL BLOODSOE WE SURELY BROUGHT HOME THE BACON - $200 000 WORTH OF AIRPLANE!
WE CAN SMUGGLE ON A MACHINE GUN AND NO ONE WILL EVER FIND THIS NEW MODEL OUT HERE IN THE MEXICAN WILDS TEEKEELA!
SAY! WHAT'S THAT NOISE IN THE TAIL BLOODSOE?
HELP! HELP!

SMILIN' JACK

SO!! YOU ALWAYS DID HAVE A WEAKNESS FOR BLONDES, BY DIXIE!
IT'S NOTHING PERSONAL--I WANT HER AS AN ACE IN THE HOLE--SHE'LL COME IN HANDY AS A HOSTAGE IN CASE WE GET IN A JAM, TEEKEELA!
--BUT WHAT IF I DID TAKE A PERSONAL INTEREST IN HER--I'M BOSS HERE--SHE IS A PRETTY LITTLE DISH----
I WON'T GIVE UP HOPE--MY GIRL WAS ON THAT SHIP--IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN STOLEN BY THE AIR SMUGGLERS!
BUT HOW?
STRATO PLANE DISAPPEARANCE STILL A MYSTERY
I DON'T KNOW--BUT I HAVE PERMISS ON FROM MEK CO TO FLY OVER THERE AND TRY TO FIND OUT--I KNOW THE COUNTRY THEY OPERATE FROM!
BLOODSOE KEEPS THE STRATO PLANE COVERED IN CAMOUFLAGED CANVAS WHEN NOT IN USE---
JACK FLIES TO THE CENTER OF BLOODSOE'S HIDE OUT--BUT IT IS SO WELL HIDDEN THAT--
IT'S LIKE LOOKING FOR A NEEDLE---NOTHING BUT DESOLATE COUNTRY AS FAR AS I CAN SEE!
GET AWAY FROM ME----YOU MURDERER!
SUCH INGRATITUDE! YOU SEEM TO FORGET THAT I SAVED YOU FROM THE FATE THAT BEFELL YOUR FELLOW PASSENGERS!
I SAVED YOU BECAUSE YOU ARE TOO BEAUTIFUL TO DIE--I AM EXCEEDINGLY FOND OF YOU, MY SWEETHEART!
GO TO TEEKEELA--SHE'S YOUR SWEETHEART!
TEEKEELA GETS ON MY NERVES BUT YOU ARE DIFFERENT--SO REFRESHING--IF YOU ARE WISE YOU WILL BE NICE TO ME--
BAH! SHE GETS ON MY NERVES BUT YOU ARE DIFFERENT--SO REFRESHING--IF YOU ARE WISE YOU WILL BE NICE TO ME--
GET OUT! LEAVE ME ALONE!
AS YOU SAY, MY LITTLE GAZELLE--I LEAVE YOU LOCKED IN YOUR CELL!
GET OUT!
AH, SHE IS DIFFERENT--AND SHE MUST BE APPROACHED DIFFERENTLY BUT I KNOW THE WAY TO ANY WOMAN'S HEART!
YOU'RE SO COOL TO ME, BARON--I KNOW IT'S BECAUSE OF THAT DIXIE!
GO AWAY--CAN'T YOU SEE YOU BORE ME--YOU'RE SO BRAZEN---WHY DON'T YOU TRY TO BE A LADY--LIKE DIXIE!?
DIXIE--AH SHE'S THE GIRL FOR ME--SO YOUNG AND BEAUTIFUL--SO REFINED--I SHALL MARRY HER--SHE'LL BE HARD TO WIN--BUT I KNOW HOW---JEWELS!
I'LL SHOWER HER WITH PRECIOUS STONES!--I'LL SEND A DIAMOND BRACELET IN TO HER ON HER FOOD TRAY!

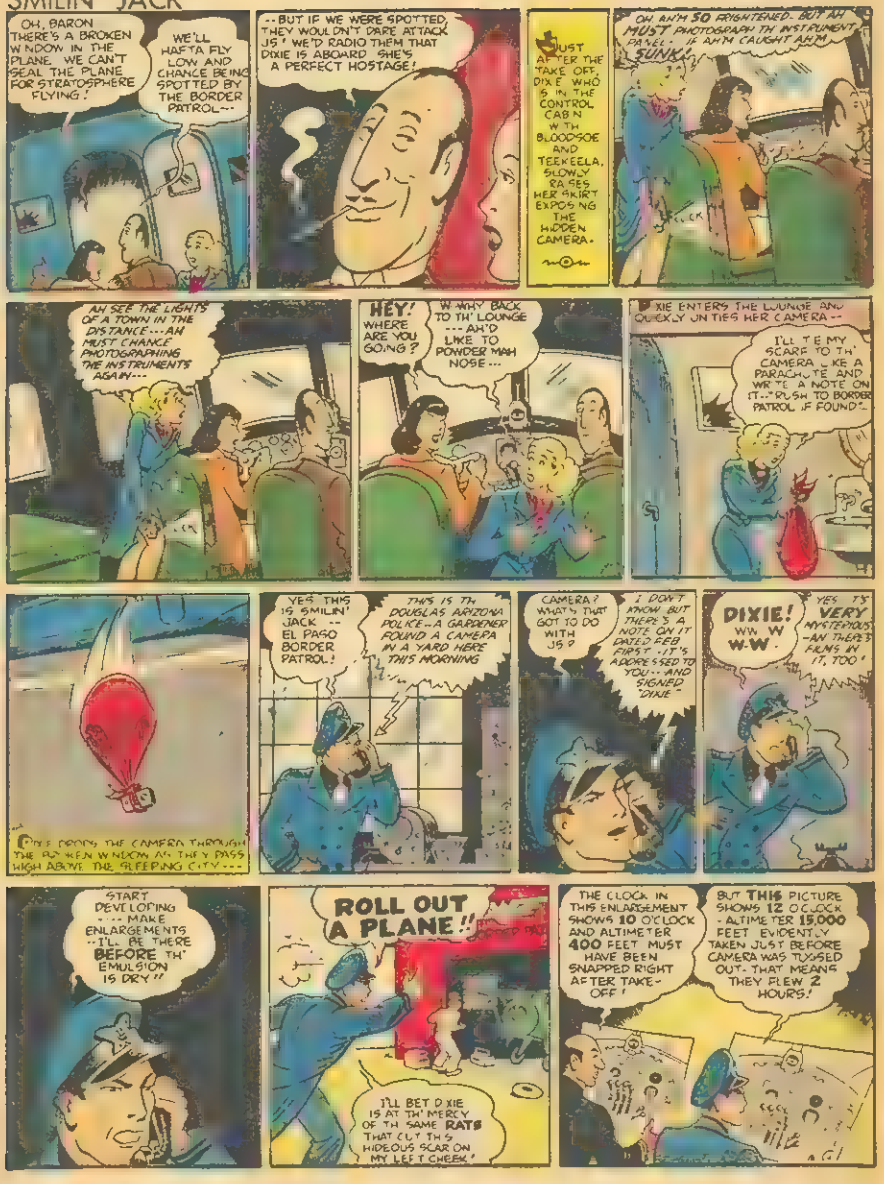
SMILIN' JACK


LATER
OH! WHAT'S THIS - DIAMONDS ---BEAUTIFUL DIAMONDS!!
I'LL STROLL DOWN TO DIXIE'S CELL -- SHE SHOULD BE MORE FRIENDLY SINCE I'VE BEEN SHOWERING HER WITH GEMS--
I --I SENT HER A SAPPHIRE NECKLACE ON HER BREAKFAST TRAY TODAY -- JADE EARRINGS FOR LUNCH --AND A DIAMOND STUDDED TIARA FOR DINNER--
--NOW THAT MEMO SHOULD WIN ANY GIRL!
HELLO, MY BEAUTY ER-- HOW DO YOU LIKE THE JEWEL COATED "DEMEE"S I'VE BEEN SENDING YOU?
VERY DISTASTEFUL! ANYTHING FROM YOU IS IMPOSSIBLE TO DIGEST --YOU--YOU MURDERER!!
TAKE YOUR FILTHY JEWELRY -- STAY AWAY FROM ME YOU MURDERER!
MY! WHAT A TEMPER -- BUT I LIKE FIERY GIRLS--
COME! YOU'RE GOING WITH US-- WE'RE READY TO FLY ANOTHER LOAD!
BLOODSOE, THE BORDER PATROL WILL SHOOT YOU OUT OF THE SKIES ONE OF THESE DAYS--
OH NO! THAT'S WHERE YOU COME IN, DIXIE -- THEY EVER SHOULD GET ON OUR TRAIL----
--WE'LL SIMPLY RADIO THEM THAT YOU ARE ABOARD AND THEY WON'T DARE SHOOT US DOWN ---YOU ARE OUR "SHIELD" DIXIE DEAR!
COMMANDER, THE LATEST RADIO REPORT SAYS "ALL HOPE FOR THE MISSING STRATOSPHERE AIRLINER HAS BEEN ABANDONED!"
BUT I JUST KNOW DIXIE ISN'T DEAD--I WILL BELIEVE BLOODSOE STOLE THAT SHIP--WE MUST FIND IT!"
WE'RE DOING EVERYTHING HUMANLY POSSIBLE, JACK. BUT I MAY AS WELL BE FRANK
--SUPPOSE IT IS IN OPERATION. THERE ARE HUNDREDS OF MILES OF UNPATROLLED BORDER---

SMILIN' JACK

AN' F'R THOSE SKULKERS FLY IN THE STRATOSPHERE AT NIGHT WHERE ISN'T ONE CHANCE IN A THOUSAND TO EVEN DETECT THEM MUCH LESS CATCH THEM!
SAY--WHY ARE YOU PHOTOGRAPHIN' ME, YOU FIEND?
I'M A CANOID CAMERA FAN WHEN I SEE A BEAUTIFUL PICTURE LIKE YOU I CANNOT RESIST TAKING IT!
SAY! THAT CAMERA! IF HE'LL BE BLOODHOUNDS JUDGING IS AN ACT MOTH KNEE JOY MAYBE AN CAN 'BOOPOOH' IT!
OH! SO YOU REALLY THINK AH'M BEAUTIFUL WANT A SNAP THIS POSE?
WELL! AT LONG LAST--I MISS BAD TEMPER IS ACT NO HUMAN SHE GIVES!
YOU'RE NOT SO BAD AH'M BEGINNIN' TO UNDERSTAND YOU ONLY HAVE ENEMIES AN PEOPLE THAT GET IN YOUR WAY
...FE'S LIKE A WAR TO YOU, AND YOU ARE A GENERAL ... TO ATTAIN YOUR GOAL!
MY DEAR YOU ARE PERFECTLY RIGHT--THAT IS MY PHILOSOPHY OF LIFE!
DIXIE NOW THAT YOU UNDERSTAND ME I THINK WE WILL GET ON NICELY
AH HOPE SO, BAR AH'M TIRE OF FOOLING AH MUST GET HIS CAMERA HE HAS IT IN HIS COAT POCKET
EE-EEOOW!!
OH! WHAT'S WRONG, DIXIE DEAR?
IT'S SLITZ--HE JUST PASSED TH' DOOR--HE LOOKED SO STRANGELY AT ME--THAT AWFUL KNIFE HE CARRIES--HE FRIGHTENED ME SO---
HE DID! I'LL TEACH HIM FRIGHTEN MY LITTLE HEART--TAKE CARE OF HIM!
AND THIS LITTLE CAMERA THAT AH SLIPPED OUT OF HIS POCKET MAY TAKE CARE OF A CERTAIN MURDERER!
IF AH'M CAUGHT US NO THIS CAMERA I'D CERTAIN DEATH AH'D BETTAH TIE IT FAST TO MAH LEG!
THEY'RE FLYING A LOAD OF ALIENS ACROSS THE BORDER TONIGHT---BUT THERE MUST BE A WINDOW BROKEN IN THE STRATOSPHERE PLANE BEFORE MY PLAN WILL WORK!
BUT HOW CAN AH BREAK DAT WINDOW HERE IN THIS ROOM? AH HAVE HEARD LOOSE STONES IN TH' FLOOR--AN AH'LL USE MAH GARTERS!
THEY MAKE A SWELL SLING SHOT--LUCKY TH' SHIP IS PARKED NEAR MAH WINDOW!!

SMILIN' JACK


OH, BARON THERE'S A BROKEN WINDOW IN THE PLANE. WE CAN'T SEAL THE PLANE FOR STRATOSPHERE FLYING!
WE'LL HAFTA FLY LOW AND CHANCE BEING SPOTTED BY THE BORDER PATROL---
--BUT IF WE WERE SPOTTED, THEY WOULDN'T DARE ATTACK US! WE'D RADIO THEM THAT DIXIE IS ABOARD. SHE'S A PERFECT HOSTAGE!
JUST AFTER THE TAKE OFF, DIXIE WHO IS IN THE CONTROL CABIN WITH BLOODSOE AND TEEKEELA, SLOWLY RAISES HER SKIRT EXPOSING THE HIDDEN CAMERA.
OH, AH'M SO FRIGHTENED--BUT AH MUST PHOTOGRAPH TH' INSTRUMENT PANEL--IF AH'M CAUGHT, AH'M SUNK!
AH SEE THE LIGHTS OF A TOWN IN THE DISTANCE---AH MUST CHANCE PHOTOGRAPHING THE INSTRUMENTS AGAIN---
HEY! WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
W-WHY BACK TO TH' LOUNGE ---AH'D LIKE TO POWDER MAH NOSE---
DIXIE ENTERS THE LOUNGE AND QUICKLY UNTIES HER CAMERA--
I'LL TIE MY SCARF TO TH' CAMERA--LIKE A PARACHUTE AND WRITE A NOTE ON IT--RUSH TO BORDER PATROL IF FOUND--
DIXIE DROPS THE CAMERA THROUGH THE BROKEN WINDOW AS THEY PASS HIGH ABOVE THE SLEEPING CITY---
YES, THIS IS SMILIN' JACK -- EL PASO BORDER PATROL!
THIS IS TH' DOUGLAS ARIZONA POLICE--A GARDENER FOUND A CAMERA IN A YARD HERE THIS MORNING
CAMERA? WHAT'S THAT GOT TO DO WITH US?
I DON'T KNOW, BUT THERE'S A NOTE ON IT DATED FEB. FIRST--IT'S ADDRESSED TO YOU--AND SIGNED "DIXIE"
DIXIE! WW W W.W.
YES, IT'S VERY MYSTERIOUS--AN THERE'S FILMS IN IT, TOO!
START DEVELOPING---MAKE ENLARGEMENTS--I'LL BE THERE BEFORE TH' EMULSION IS DRY!!
ROLL OUT A PLANE!!
I'LL BET DIXIE IS AT TH' MERCY OF TH' SAME RATS THAT CUT THIS HIDEOUS SCAR ON MY LEFT CHEEK!
THE CLOCK IN THIS ENLARGEMENT SHOWS 10 O'CLOCK AND ALTIMETER 400 FEET MUST HAVE BEEN SNAPPED RIGHT AFTER TAKE-OFF!
BUT THIS PICTURE SHOWS 12 O'CLOCK - ALTIMETER 15,000 FEET EVIDENTLY TAKEN JUST BEFORE CAMERA WAS TOSSED OUT--THAT MEANS THEY FLEW 2 HOURS!

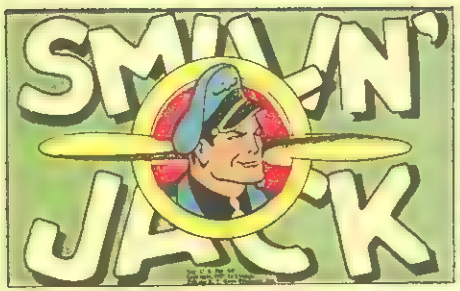
SMILIN' JACK

LOOK! AIR SPEED DIAL--- 200 M.P.H.--CALL WEATHER BUREAU AN' FIND OUT WIND VELOCITY FOR N GHT OF FEBRUARY 1ST -TH' DATE OF DIXIE'S NOTE!
THEY SAY RECORDS SHOW 20 MILE WND FROM NORTH-- THAT MEANS PLANE ACTUALLY FLEW 200 M.P.H. FOR TWO HOURS!
REVERSE COMPASS COURSE IN THESE PICTURES AND WE'LL FIND BLOODSOE'S NEW HIDE OUT APPROXIMATELY 400 MILES SOUTH OF HERE!
AT BLOODSOE'S DESOLATE HIDE-OUT IN MEXICO--
WELL, DIXIE--HOW DO YOU LIKE THE SWELL ROOM I GAVE YOU?
OKAY - BUT AH NOTICE YOU STILL KEEP ME LOCKED UP WHEN WE'RE NOT FLYIN' --A FINE WAY TO TREAT A FRIEND!
FRIEND, EH? YOU TALK FRIENDLY--BUT YOU ACT SO COOL! IF YOU'RE PLAYING ME FOR A SUCKER YOU'LL BE VERY SORRY--YOU GORGEOUS TID-BIT!
DON'T FORGET WHAT SLITZ DOES TO DOUBLE-CROSSERS WITH THAT KNIFE OF HIS--
OH. AH WOULDN'T TRY TO KID YOU, BLOODSOE--HONEST--YOU KNOW AH LIKE YOU!
GOOD! I'LL GIVE YOU A CHANCE TO PROVE THAT --- KISS ME!
?!?
STOP, BLOODSOE--AH LIKE YOU BUT-AH- AH MUST BE SURE AH LOVE YOU BEFO' AH KISS YOU---
SO? JUST AS I SUSPECTED! YOU'VE BEEN PRETENDING ---STALLING FOR TIME--- HOPING TO ESCAPE!
WELL, I'VE BEEN A PATIENT SAP LONG ENOUGH-- I'LL MAKE YOU KISS ME - YOU GORGEOUS CREATURE!
STOP! LISTEN- AH HEAR PLANES --LOTS OF PLANES!
THERE'S NOTHING SUSPICIOUS LOOKING ABOUT THIS PLACE-- BES DES, OUR PLANE IS HIDDEN UNDER CAMOUFLAGED CANVAS SAY, SN'T THAT "EEKEELA CALLING?
BLOODSOE! QUICK! TO THE LOOK-OUT! --IT'S BORDER PATROL PLANES --THEY KEEP CIRCLING!!
OK-KAYING DIXIE'S DOOR, BLOODSOE RACES TO THE LOOK OUT-
BORDER PATROL! SURELY THEY CAN'T DETECT THIS PLACE--BUT SOMEWAY THEY MUST HAVE LEARNED WE'RE IN THIS VICINITY!!
SLAM!
THE BORDER PATROL IS TOO CLOSE--THEY'LL SPOT US ANY MOMENT COME, DIXIE, YOU'RE GOING WITH US!
THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK! AH'VE BARRICADED MAH DOOR!

SMILIN' JACK

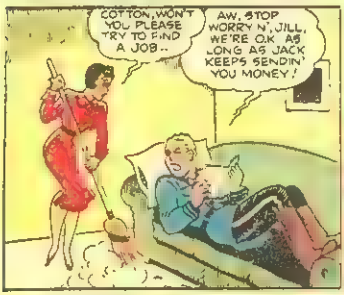
DIXIE! COME OUT OF THERE! IF YOU DON'T I'LL BOMB YOU AS WE TAKE OFF!
NO! I'D PREFER A BOMB TO YOU, BLOCKHOE!
MISSED! CIRCLE BACK, TEEKEELA—WE MUST DROP ANOTHER ONE BEFORE THE PATROL PLANES REACH US!
BOOM!
BOOM!
HOORAY! A BULL'S EYE THAT TIME!!
THIS MATTRESS IS ALL THAT SAVED ME FROM THAT EXPLOSION --OH! THE PLACE IS IN FLAMES!
AN' THE PASSAGES ARE BLOCKED AN'M TRAPPED MAYBE THE PATROL PILOTS WILL SAVE ME! OH! AH'M CHOKIN'!!
TAT TAT
TAT TAT
TAT TAT
BUT JACK AND ALL THE PATROL PILOTS ARE PURSUING THE FLEEING STRATO PLANE!
JACK, OUR SHIPS AREN'T FAST ENOUGH TO CATCH THE SMUGGLER'S SUPER SPEED STRATO PLANE!
RIGHT! LET'S GO BACK AN SEE IF WE CAN FIND ANY CLUES IN THE BURNIN HIDE OUT!
WE MUST CATCH THEM BEFORE THEY HARM DIXIE THOSE RATS MIGHT PUT A HIDE'S MARK ON HER FACE OR THEY CUT ON MY LEFT CHEEK!
JACK THERE'S A LITTLE CHANCE OF FINDING ANY CLUES HERE JUST LOOK AT THOSE FLAMES!
LISTEN! I HEAR SCREAMS THAT'S DIXIE'S VOICE -DIXIE!!
HELP!
SHE'S TRAPPED! ALL TH PASSAGES ARE BLOCKED BUT WE MUST GET TO HER SOMEHOW!
JACK, IT'S HOPELESS COUGH COUGH THERE'S SO MUCH DEBRIS IN THE PASSAGES WE COUGH CAN'T GET THROUGH TO DIXIE
BUT WE MUST! WE'LL TEAR TH' WALLS DOWN!
BUT COUGH COUGH THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE -- IT CAN'T BE DONE!
OH YES IT CAN!

I'M GONNA FLY A PLANE THRU THE WALL AND CRASH A HOLE THROUGH TH' WALL!
JACK! ARE YOU CRAZY? THAT'S SUICIDE!!
JACK, YOU'LL KILL YOURSELF IF YOU FLY A PLANE INTO THAT WALL!
BUT IT'S TH' ONLY WAY WE CAN BREAK THROUGH TO SAVE DIXIE!
I'VE GOTTA GRAB SOME BLANKETS OUTTA TH' EMERGENCY PLANE AND WRAP ME UP IN 'EM
MAYBE THESE WILL HELP ME WITHSTAND TH' CRASH--HURRY! LOAD ME IN TH' COCKPIT!!
CRASH!
QUICKLY THE PATROL PUSHES THROUGH THE HOLE AND CARRY OUT THE UNCONSCIOUS FORMS OF JACK AND DIXIE--
SOMEONE GET THE FIRST AID KITS OUTTA OUR PLANES!
HERE YOU ARE, COMMANDER
I DON'T THINK IT'S NECESSARY NOW, THEY'VE ALREADY REGAINED CONSCIOUSNESS
CUPID SEEMS TO BE AT HIS LAZIEST ON THIS CASE!!
DIXIE, DARLIN'!
JACK HONEY!
JACK HONEY AN' NEVAH BE ABLE TO THANK YOU ENOUGH FOR KEEPIN' ME FROM BLOODSOE--
FORGET IT DIXIE WHEN I THINK OF THOSE MURDERERS ESCAPING--! BAH!
JACK YOU NEED A VACATION--HOW 'BOUT GETTIN' A WEEK OFF AN' FLYIN' BACK HOME WITH ME?
I MUST STAY HERE DIXIE--A BORDER PATROL NEEDS EVERY MAN WE CAN GET TO STOP TILL WE CATCH BLOODSUE!

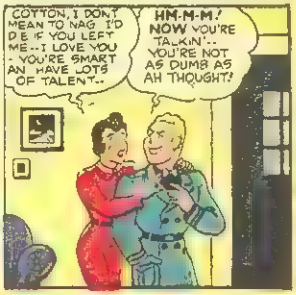


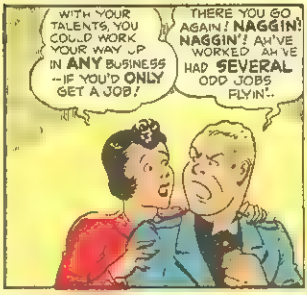
SYNOPSIS

AFTER A SPECTACULAR RESCUE BY JACK, DIXIE IS NOW FREE FROM THE NOTORIOUS SMUGGLER, BLOODSOE. JACK WOULD LIKE TO RETURN TO THE STATES WITH DIXIE BUT ADMITS HE WILL NOT RETURN TILL BLOODSOE AND HIS KILLERS ARE SAFE BEHIND BARS.

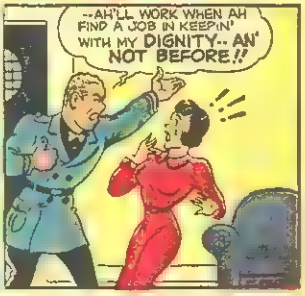


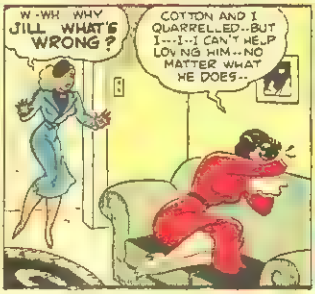
I KNOW BUT YOU SHOULD TRY TO WORK- YOU'RE MY HUSBAND!
SHUT UP! YOU'RE ENOUGH TO DRIVE A MAN NUTS! IF YOU DON'T STOP NAGGIN' ME AH --AH'LL LEAVE YOU!!

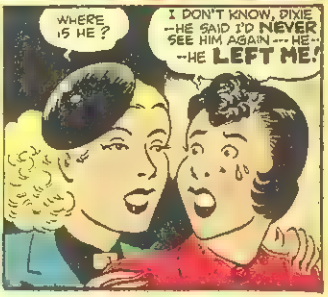

COTTON, I DON'T MEAN TO NAG I'D DIE IF YOU LEFT ME--I LOVE YOU - YOU'RE SMART AN HAVE LOTS OF TALENT--
HM-M-M! NOW YOU'RE TALKIN'-- YOU'RE NOT AS DUMB AS AH THOUGHT!


WITH YOUR TALENTS, YOU COULD WORK YOUR WAY UP IN ANY BUSINESS --IF YOU'D ONLY GET A JOB!
THERE YOU GO AGAIN! NAGGIN' NAGGIN'! AH'VE WORKED AH'VE HAD SEVERAL ODD JOBS FLYIN'..

YES--BUT YOU SPENT ALL YOU MADE FLYING OTHER PLANES-- I HEARD THERE'S A MECHANIC'S HELPER'S JOB OPEN AT---
MECHANIC'S HELPER! PHOOIE! THAT'S NO JOB FOR AN ACE LIKE ME--



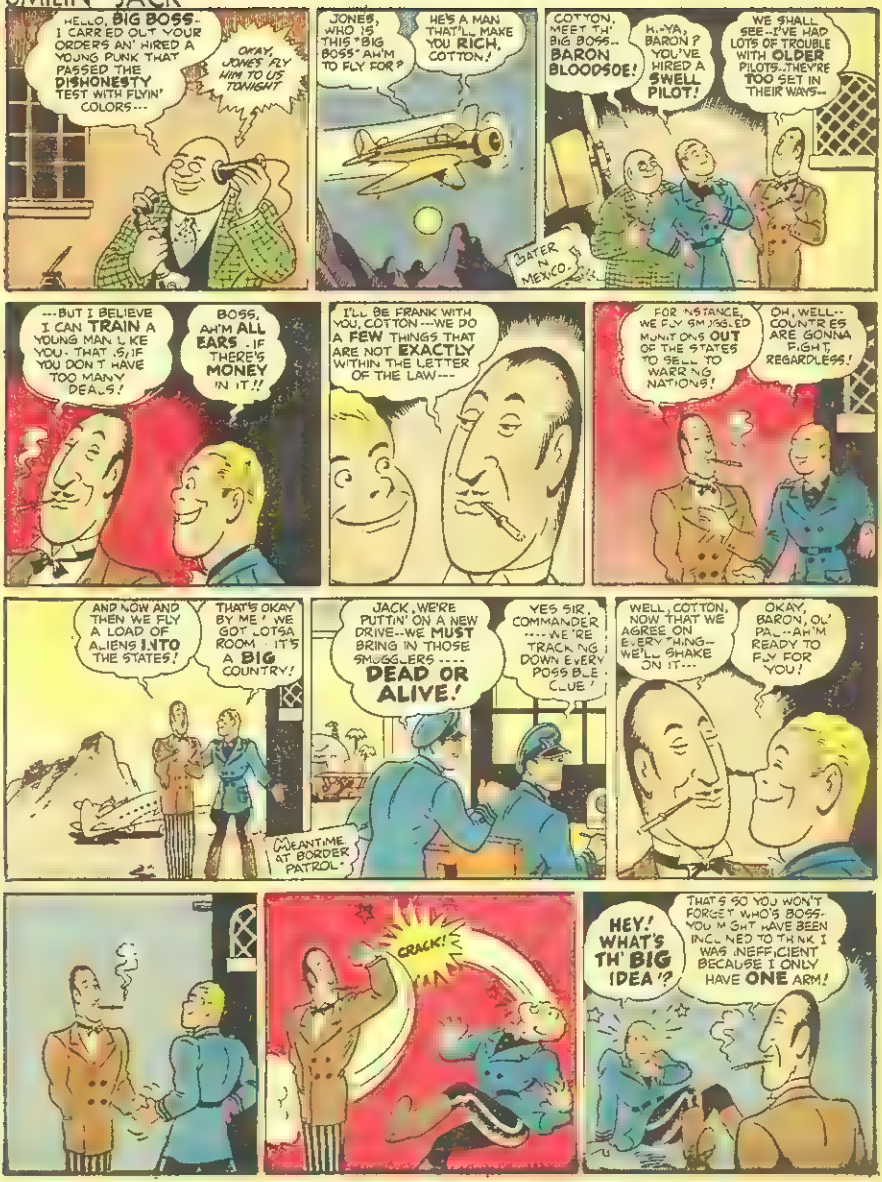




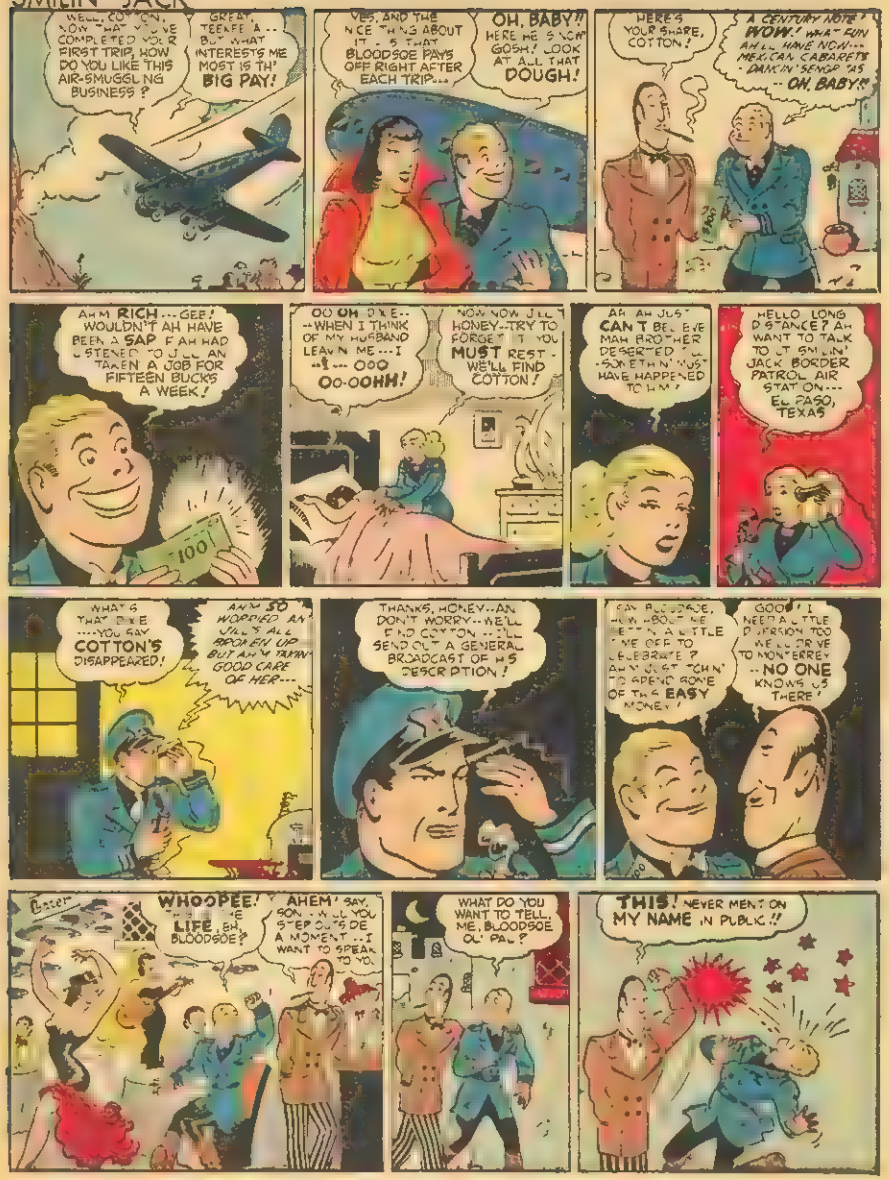
SMILIN' JACK

WELL AM GUESS AM SHOWED JILL A TH NG OR TWO BY WALKIN' OUT ON HER-- NO WOMAN CAN NAG ME--
--AH SHOULDA KNOWN BETTER'N TO TIE MYSELF DOWN BY MARRYIN', ANYWAY - NO HUM! AH THINK AH LL RE AA B T ' THIS HOTEL HAS TH' SOFTEST LOBBY SOFAS N TOWN!
WONDER WHY SOME SMART AIRLINE PRES DENT DOESN'T LOCK ME UP AN' G VE ME A NCE SJET FLY N' JOB ?
SAY! LOOK WHAT'S IN THIS FLYIN' MAGAZINE ... "WANTED- YOUNG PILOT ... BIG PAY-- SHORT HOURS!" BOY! THAT'S TH' JOB FOR ME!!
M STAH JONES, AH M TH ANSWER TO A COCKP T'S PRAYER YOU CAN D SCONTNUE YOUR AD AH LL TAKE TH' JOB!
THAT DEPENDS ON YOUR ABIL TY TO PASS THE TESTS ALL OTHER APPLICAN'S HAVE FA LED !
CAN YOU HANDLE MULTI-MOTOR SHPS ?
SURE! AH .E HAD SEVERAL HOURS FLYIN' RI-MOTORS!
SAY JONES LOOK T HAT K K K THAT N G LOSE AR.. AND HE'S A NATURAL!
AFTER HE LANDS, DROP THIS BILL FOLD WHERE HE'LL BE SURE TO F ND T .. - T CONTANS $100 AND MY NAME AND ADDRESS!
YEAH B T THE HONESTY TEST S WHAT COUN S!
OH, BOY! LOOK AT TH' DOUGH!--SAY HERE'S A CARD WHY T BELONGS TO MISTAH JONES ...BUT HELL NEVAH SEE T AGA N!
Later
WELL, JONES--I FOLLOWED COTTON - FIRST HE WENT TO A N D NIGHT CLUB AND SHORT-CHANGED THE HAT CHECK GIRL!
LATER HE BOUGHT SOME LEAD SLUGS AND USED 'EM N TELEPHONES AND SLOT MACHINES. THEN HE BOUGHT A DECK OF MARKED CARDS..
AND BROKE A BUNCH OF HIS FRIENDS N A POKER GAME JONES HE'S AS D S-HONEST A BOY AS EVER SAW!!
GREAT! COTTON'S TH BOY FOR ME .. BRING M HERE!

SMILIN' JACK


HELLO, BIG BOSS.. I CARRIED OUT YOUR ORDERS AN' HIRED A YOUNG PUNK THAT PASSED THE DISHONESTY TEST WITH FLYIN' COLORS---
OKAY, JONES FLY HIM TO US TONIGHT
JONES, WHO IS THIS "BIG BOSS" AH'M TO FLY FOR?
HE'S A MAN THAT'LL MAKE YOU RICH, COTTON!
LATER IN MEXICO
COTTON, MEET TH' BIG BOSS.. BARON BLOODSOE!
H.-YA, BARON? YOU'VE HIRED A SWELL PILOT!
WE SHALL SEE--I'VE HAD LOTS OF TROUBLE WITH OLDER PILOTS..THEY'RE TOO SET IN THEIR WAYS--
---BUT I BELIEVE I CAN TRAIN A YOUNG MAN LIKE YOU. THAT IS, IF YOU DON'T HAVE TOO MANY DEALS!
BOSS, AH'M ALL EARS. IF THERE'S MONEY IN IT!!
I'LL BE FRANK WITH YOU, COTTON---WE DO A FEW THINGS THAT ARE NOT EXACTLY WITHIN THE LETTER OF THE LAW---
FOR INSTANCE, WE FLY SMUGGLED MUNITIONS OUT OF THE STATES TO SELL TO WARRING NATIONS!
OH, WELL-- COUNTRIES ARE GONNA FIGHT, REGARDLESS!
AND NOW AND THEN WE FLY A LOAD OF ALIENS INTO THE STATES!
THAT'S OKAY BY ME! WE GOT LOTSA ROOM. IT'S A BIG COUNTRY!
JACK, WE'RE PUTTIN' ON A NEW DRIVE--WE MUST BRING IN THOSE SMUGGLERS ---- DEAD OR ALIVE!
YES SIR, COMMANDER ---- WE'RE TRACKING DOWN EVERY POSSIBLE CLUE!
MEANTIME, AT BORDER PATROL.
WELL, COTTON, NOW THAT WE AGREE ON EVERYTHING-- WE'LL SHAKE ON IT---
OKAY, BARON, OL' PAL--AH'M READY TO FLY FOR YOU!
CRACK!
HEY! WHAT'S TH' BIG IDEA!?
THAT'S SO YOU WON'T FORGET WHO'S BOSS. YOU MIGHT HAVE BEEN INCLINED TO THINK I WAS INEFFICIENT BECAUSE I ONLY HAVE ONE ARM!

SMILIN' JACK


WELL, COTTON, NOW THAT YOU'VE COMPLETED YOUR FIRST TRIP, HOW DO YOU LIKE THIS AIR-SMUGGLING BUSINESS?
GREAT, TEEAFE A-- BUT WHAT INTERESTS ME MOST IS TH' BIG PAY!
YES, AND THE NICE THING ABOUT IT IS THAT BLOODSOE PAYS OFF RIGHT AFTER EACH TRIP...
OH, BABY!! HERE ME S NOW GOSH! LOOK AT ALL THAT DOUGH!
HERE'S YOUR SHARE, COTTON!
A CENTURY NOTE! WOW! WHAT FUN WE'LL HAVE NOW--- MEXICAN CABARETS - DANCIN' SENOR'S AS -- OH, BABY!!
AHM RICH---GEE! WOULDN'T AH HAVE BEEN A SAP IF AH HAD LISTENED TO JILL AN TAKEN A JOB FOR FIFTEEN BUCKS A WEEK!
100
OO OH DEAR--WHEN I THINK OF MY HUSBAND LEAVIN ME---I --!--- OOO OO-OOHH!
NOW NOW JILL HONEY--TRY TO FORGET IT YOU MUST REST - WE'LL FIND COTTON!
AH AH JUST CAN'T BELEVE MAH BROTHER DESERTED JILL -SOMETHIN MUST HAVE HAPPENED TO HIM!
HELLO LONG DISTANCE? AH WANT TO TALK TO LT SMILIN' JACK BORDER PATROL AIR STATION--- EL PASO, TEXAS
WHAT'S THAT DERE ....YOU SAY COTTON'S DISAPPEARED!
AN'M SO WORRIED AN' JILL'S ALL BROKEN UP BUT AN'M PLUMB GOOD CARE OF HER---
THANKS, HONEY--AN DON'T WORRY--WE'LL FIND COTTON--I'LL SEND OUT A GENERAL BROADCAST OF HIS DESCRIPTION!
SAY BLOODSOE, HOW ABOUT WE GETTIN A LITTLE TIME OFF TO CELEBRATE? AN'M JUST TCHIN TO SPEND SOME OF THE EASY MONEY!
GOOD! I NEED A LITTLE DIVERSION TOO WE'LL DRIVE TO MONTEREY --NO ONE KNOWS US THERE!
Clatter
WHOOPEE! THIS LIFE, EH, BLOODSOE?
AHEM! SAY, SON - WILL YOU STEP OUTSIDE A MOMENT--I WANT TO SPEAK TO YOU.
WHAT DO YOU WANT TO TELL, ME, BLOODSOE OL' PAL?
THIS! NEVER MENTION MY NAME IN PUBLIC!!

SMILIN' JACK

JACK, HERE'S A REPORT FROM ONE OF OUR UNDER-COVER MEN. HE LEARNED FROM A MEXICAN DANCER THAT A BOY ANSWERING COTTON'S DESCRIPTION WAS SEEN WITH---
--A ONE ARMED MAN REFERRED TO AS BLOODSOE! THE DANCER DIDN'T KNOW WHERE THEY CAME FROM OR WHERE THEY WENT!
BLOODSOE! SURELY COTTON HASN'T TEAMED UP WITH THAT MURDERER!
JACK, LONG DISTANCE CALL FOR YOU!
JACK, DARLIN THIS IS DIXIE CALLIN' AGAIN. JILL AND AH CAN'T STOP WORRYIN'. HAVE YOU ANY NEWS OF COTTON?
WHY--- --ER- NO, DIXIE -- BUT WE'RE DOING OUR BEST. TRY NOT TO WORRY HONEY!
GOSH! IF THAT REPORT ABOUT COTTON TURNS OUT TO BE TRUE --HOW'LL I EVER BE ABLE TO TELL JILL AN' DIXIE---
YEH, YEAH WE ARE BACK FROM ANOTHER TRIP. AIR-SMUGGLIN' SURE PAYS. EVEN A SMALL "CUT" LIKE MINE IS BIG -- BUT AH'LL SOON MAKE MORE--
RIGHT AH CAN BECOME BLOODSOE'S PARTNER WE'LL GIVE SLITZ AND TEEKEELA A SMALL SALARY.
--THEN BLOODSOE AND AH WILL SPLIT TH' REST-50-50-- BUT WHY SHOULD AH GIVE HIM HALF? IT'S MY FLYIN' THAT MAKES TH' MONEY!
IF AH USE MY HEAD AH CAN FREEZE BLOODSOE OUT---WHY, IN NO TIME AH'LL BE RUNNIN' THIS OUTFIT LOCK STOCK AN' BARREL!!
MEN, WE'VE EXHAUSTED EVERY CLUE. BUT JACK HAS DOPED OUT A NEW PATROL SYSTEM!
YES, EVERY NIGHT WE'LL WORK A HUNDRED-MILE SECTION OF THE BORDER -- EACH PLANE FLYING AT A DIFFERENT ALTITUDE --
--AND ABOUT TEN MILES AHEAD OF THE NEXT PLANE--THEN AS WE SHUTTLE BACK AND FORTH ALL OF THE SECTION WILL BE COVERED AT THE SAME TIME---
--SOONER OR LATER WE'LL HIT TH' SECTION WHERE THE AIR-SMUGGLERS ARE CROSSING!
BUT, JACK --WHAT IF THEY'RE FLYIN' IN THE STRATOSPHERE? OUR PLANES CAN'T FLY THAT HIGH!
A FEW MINUTES LATER
THE STRATOSPHERE WILL BE MY BEAT--I'VE GOT A NEW FAST PURSUIT SHIP--"SUPED" UP FOR HIGH FLYING--AND I'LL WEAR THIS OXYGEN SUIT!
ATTA BOY, JACK!
TEEKEELA THA FLY'N' ALENS SURE IS AN EASY WAY TO MAKE MONEY!
IT MAY NOT BE! WE CAN'T GET THIS BUS ABOVE 10,000 FEET-- THE ENGINES AREN'T REVVING UP RIGHT TONIGHT, COTTON!

SMILIN' JACK

I'LL CONTACT BLOODSOE--SHORT WAVE--AN' TELL HIM OUR SITUAT ON ---IN CODE!
GULP! BLOODSOE SAYS HE JUST LEARNED FROM A BORDER TIPSTER THAT PATROL PLANES ARE IN THIS SECTION!
PATROL PLANES! OH! WHERE'S A PARACHUTE--AH M LEAN'--AH CAN'T AFFORD TO BE CAUGHT SMUGGLIN'!!
SIT DOWN YOU YELLOW LIVERED PUNK --YOU WON'T LEAVE ME HOLDING TH' BAG!!
PATROL PLANES MAY SPOT US ANY SECOND--AH WANT OUTTA HERE! AH DON'T WANTA GET CAUGHT SMUGGLIN' ALIENS!
QUIET! I'M GETTING ANOTHER CODE MESSAGE FROM BLOODSOE --HE SAYS LIGHTEN LOAD SO WE CAN CLIMB FAST!
HE SAYS THERE'S NO CHANCES OF GETTING CAUGHT WITH EVIDENCE-- --DUMP CARGO OVERBOARD!
NO, TEEKEELA! WE CAN'T DO THAT! THAT'S MURDER! AH DON'T WANTA BE MIXED UP IN NO KILLIN'!
YOU SHOULDA THOUGHT OF THAT BEFORE YOU JOINED UP WITH US SLITZ! CARRY OUT BLOODSOE'S ORDER!
NO, TEEKEELA!! EVEN IF WE ARE IN DANGER OF BEING CAUGHT--YOU CAN'T DUMP THOSE ALIENS OUT--IT'S--IT'S MURDER!!
CARRY ON SLITZ!
NO, NO! PLEEZE! CHING NO WANTEE DIE--PLEEZE!!
STOP HIM!! AH DON'T WANTA BE INVOLVED IN MURDER--AH CAN'T STAND THIS!!
SHUT UP! OR I'LL HAVE SLITZ DUMP YOU OUT TOO!
BLOODSOE WHEN AH JOINED UP WITH YOU AH JUS WANTED TO MAKE EASY MONEY AH DIDN'T KNOW YOU'D HAFTA KILL PEOPLE LIKE SLITZ DID--AH WANT OUT OF THIS!
YOU CAN'T GET OUT! YOU'RE IN IT AS DEEP AS SLITZ YOU'RE AN ACCOMPLICE TO THE MURDERS!

SMILIN' JACK

OO-OH! THIS IS HORRIBLE ---AN ACCOMPLICE TO MURDER---AH'LL BE HUNTED TH' REST OF MY LIFE!
IF AH'M CAUGHT AH'LL BE SENT TO TH' PEN ---OR--- MAYBE ---- TH' --ELECTRIC CHAIR!
JACK, LOOK AT THIS REPORT--SEVERAL DEAD CHINESE WERE FOUND NEAR THE MEXICAN BORDER IN SOUTHEAST ARIZONA!
SAY! THAT'S TH' LAST SECTION WE PATROLLED!
--AND THE BODIES SHOWED EVIDENCE OF BEING DROPPED FROM GREAT HEIGHT!
THE SMUGGLERS MUST HAVE LEARNED FROM A TIPSTER THAT WE WERE IN THAT SECTION AND THEY DUMPED OUT TH' "EVIDENCE" FOR FEAR OF BEING CAUGHT!
MAYBE SO BUT THEY MADE A CLEAN GETAWAY ---WE'RE STILL OUT ON A LIMB!
NO! I'VE A CLUE--- GET OUT TH' MAPS!
THE REPORT GIVES TH' EXACT SPOT WHERE EACH BODY WAS FOUND--I'VE MARKED THEM ON TH S MAP!
COLORADO
ARIZONA
NEW MEXICO
TEXAS
SAY! THEY FORM A STRAIGHT LINE!!
YES--- CHANCES ARE THAT IS TH' COURSE TH' SMUGGLERS HAVE BEEN FLYING LATELY!
BUT, JACK--IF WE PATROL THAT COURSE SOME BORDER TIPSTER WILL NOTIFY BLOODSOE AND HE'LL SIMPLY FLY ANOTHER ROUTE!
WE'LL GET AROUND THAT--WE'RE ALL GOIN' FISHING.
FISHING? SAY ARE YOU NUTS? WE'VE GOTTA CATCH BLOODSOE!!
RIGHT! BLOODSOE IS TH' FISH WE'RE AFTER --AND I THINK I KNOW TH' BAIT TO USE!
JACK, ARE WE TO PATROL THE COURSE THAT THE SMUGGLERS USE ON THE ARIZONA BORDER?
NO--- YOU'LL PATROL THE TEXAS BORDER-
--THEN WHEN BLOODSOE IS NOTIFIED BY SOME BORDER TIPSTER THAT OUR PLANES ARE IN TEXAS HE'LL THINK IT SAFE TO FLY HIS REGULAR ARIZONA ROUTE.
--BUT EVERY NIGHT I'LL BE PATROLLING THAT ARIZONA ROUTE!
I GET T-- YOU'LL BE FLYING IN TH' STRATOSPHERE--
--YOU'LL BE SO HIGH THAT NO BORDER TIPSTER CAN SEE YOU!
RIGHT! IT'S A LONG CHANCE-- BUT IT'S OUR ONLY CHANCE..... LET'S GO!

SMILIN' JACK

TEEKEELA, I JUST GOT WORD FROM A TIPSTER THAT THE PATROL PLANES ARE CONCENTRATING ON THE TEXAS BORDER!
GOOD! WE CAN FLY OUR REGULAR ARIZONA ROUTE!
COTTON, WE'RE ALL SET FOR YOU, TEEKEELA AND SLATZ TO FLY ANOTHER LOAD!
WAIT A MINUTE, BLOODSOE, AH'M NOT GONNA FLY ANY MO' ALIENS--AH'M GITTIN' MIXED UP IN ANOTHER KILLIN'!
SHUT UP--AND DO AS YOU'RE TOLD--YOU WHIMPERING PUP! BESIDES, IT ISN'T ALIENS THIS TRIP--IT'S NARCOTICS!
OH, WHY DID AM EVAH THINK IT WAS EASY TO MAKE "EASY MONEY!"
THIS OXYGEN SUIT PLUS A SUPERCHARGED ENGINE MAKES STRATOSPHERE PATROLLING SIMPLE--SAY--THERE'S A PLANE NOW!
I BELIEVE IT'S BLOODSOE'S STRATOPLANE--I'LL RADIO THEM--CHANCES ARE THEY'RE TUNED IN ON REGULAR NIGHT FREQUENCY!
SMILIN' JACK U.S. BORDER PATROL ORDERS YOU TO LAND AT NEAREST AIRPORT FOR INSPECTION--ANSWER IF YOU HEAR ME--
SO THAT'S THEIR ANSWER!! WELL, I CAN "TALK" THAT SAME LANGUAGE!!
TEEKEELA, YOU CAN'T KICK THIS BIG ELEPHANT AROUND FAST ENOUGH TO DOGFIGHT JACK'S PURSUIT SHIP!
TRUE, COTTON BUT THAT SHIP IS TOO FAST TO OUTRUN! SHOOT HIM, SLATZ!
OH! JACK GOT THE TWO STARBOARD MOTORS!!
COTTON! HELP ME HOLD THESE CONTROLS--THE DRAG OF THOSE DEAD MOTORS IS ABOUT TO THROW US INTO A FLAT SPIN!
HERE'S JACK ON OUR TAIL AGAIN--OH! HE'S HITTIN' ANOTHER MOTOR--IT'S ON FIRE!!
WE'LL BE BURNED ALIVE!
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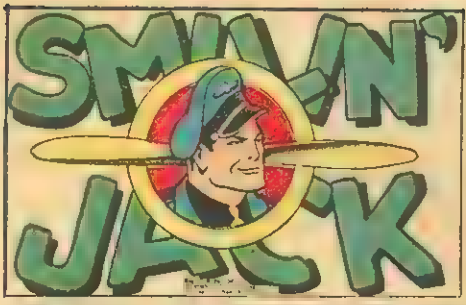
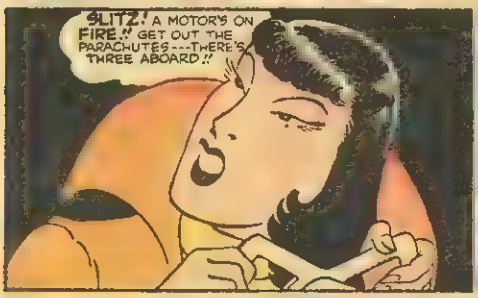
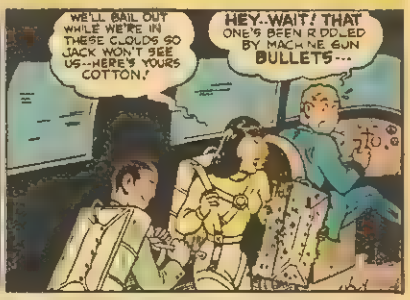
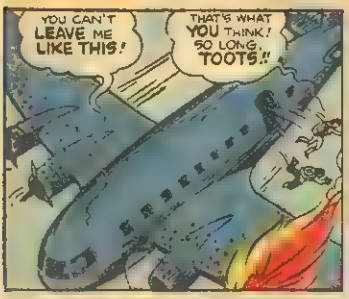


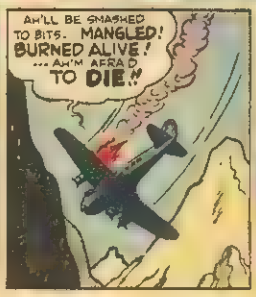
SYNOPSIS

JACK HAS JOINED THE BORDER PATROL TO TRACK DOWN BLOODSOE AND HIS SMUGGLERS...THE PROMISE OF EASY MONEY HAS LURED COTTON INTO BLOODSOE'S COMPANY, BUT HE IS PAID WITH MORE THAN MONEY WHEN THE BORDER PATROL ATTACKS THE SMUGGLER'S PLANE....




WE'LL BAIL OUT WHILE WE'RE IN THESE CLOUDS SO JACK WON'T SEE US--HERE'S YOURS COTTON!
HEY..WAIT! THAT ONE'S BEEN RIDDLED BY MACHINE GUN BULLETS...

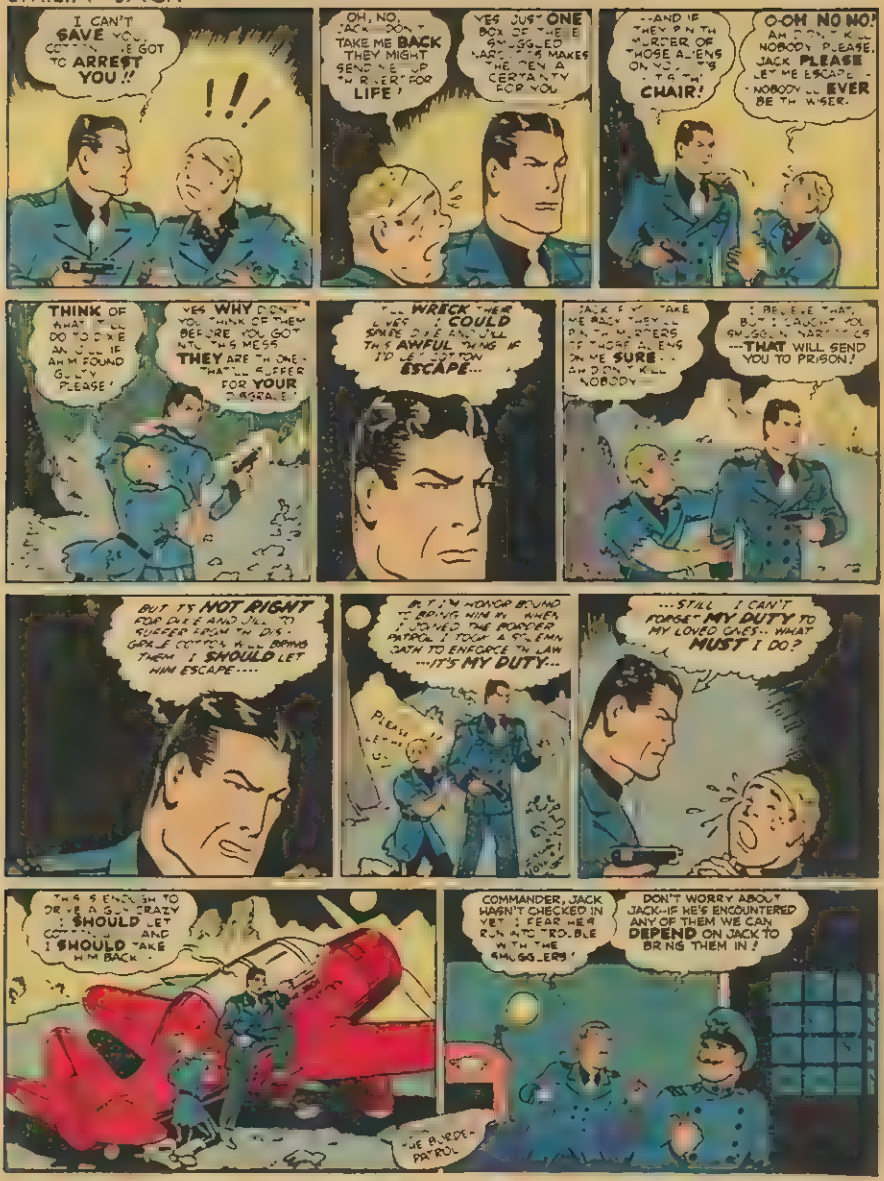




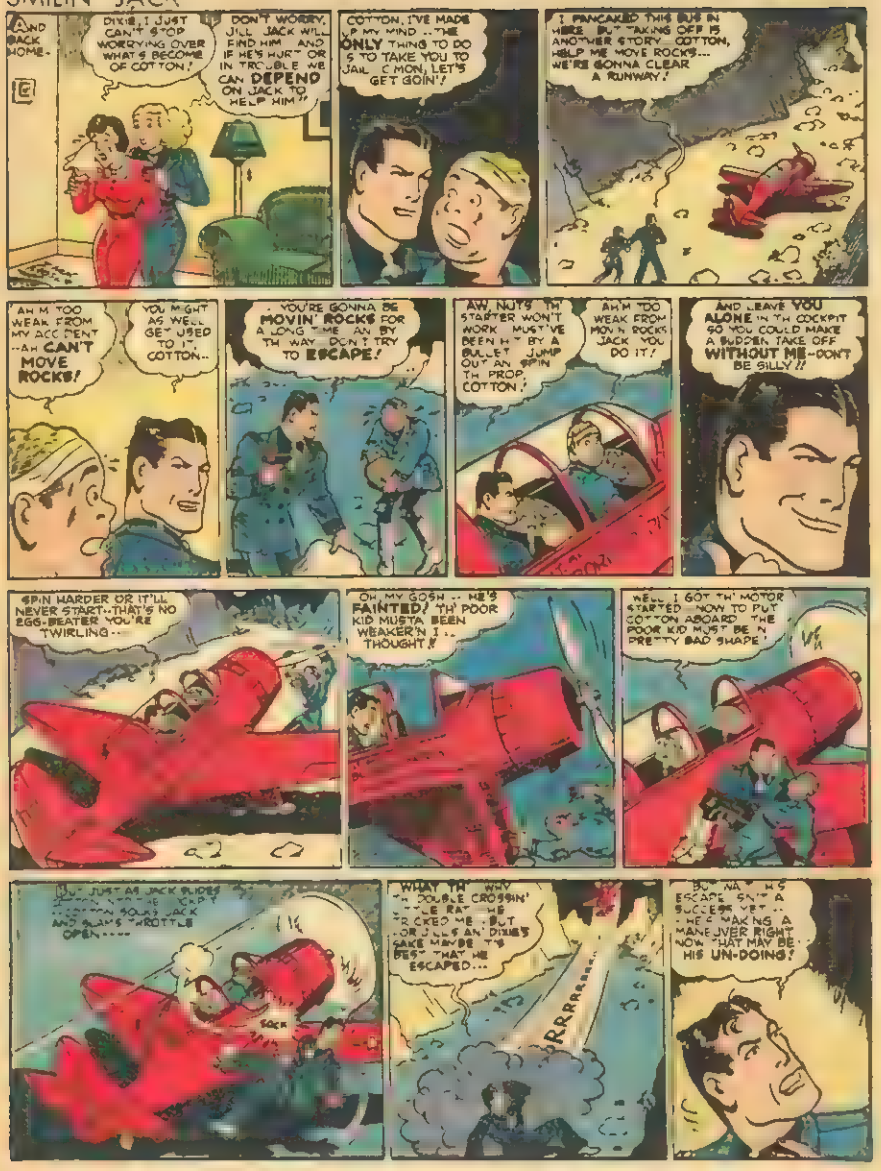
SMILIN' JACK

THE FLAMING WING IS SHEARED OFF AS IT STRIKES A
CRASH
BANG
WHAT A ROCK PILE! IT LOOKS LIKE SUICIDE TO LAND HERE ---
DROPPING A FLARE JACK SPOTS A ROUGH BUT DRY RIVER BED NOT FAR FROM THE WRECK
--BUT I HAFTA TRY IT--- IF ANY OF THOSE AIR-SMUGGLERS ARE STILL ALIVE I MUST REACH TH' WRECK BEFORE THEY ESCAPE --
-----WELL---- HERE GOES NOTHIN'!
BY HEADING INTO THE WIND CURRENTS OF THIS CANYON WITH MY NOSE HIGH AND THROTTLE PART WAY ON I CAN KEEP FLYING SPEED TILL MY FORWARD SPEED-----
IS SLOW ENOUGH TO DROP THIS BABY IN TAIL FIRST LIKE THIS -AND TRUST TO LUCK I DON'T NOSE OVER!
WHEW! IT WORKED"
--SLIDES FROM HIS CRASH-SEAT AND RUSHES TO THE SMUGGLER'S WRECKED PLANE--
NOT A SOUL--- WAIT! THERE'S A BODY SLUMPED OVER THE CONTROLS --WHY IT'S COTTON!!
COTTON'S BREATHING, ALL RIGHT---DOESN'T SEEM TO BE BADLY HURT--I'LL BANDAGE HIM UP---
GOSH! BOXES AN' BOXES OF NARCOTICS --THIS IS AWFUL---- MY OWN SISTER'S HUSBAND A SMUGGLER!
WW WHAT'S WRONG-- --WHERE AM-- OH --- IT'S JACK --JACK ---THANK GOODNESS --YOU'VE COME TO SAVE ME!!

SMILIN' JACK


I CAN'T SAVE YOU... I'VE GOT TO ARREST YOU!!
!!!
OH, NO, JACK—DON'T TAKE ME BACK THEY MIGHT SEND ME UP FOR LIFE!
YES, JUST ONE BOX OF THESE SMUGGLED NARCOTICS MAKES ME EVEN A CERTAINTY FOR THE CHAIR!
--AND IF THEY PIN THE MURDER OF THOSE ALIENS ON YOU, YOU'LL GET THE CHAIR!
O-OH NO NO! I AM DON'T KILL NOBODY PLEASE, JACK PLEASE LET ME ESCAPE - NOBODY WILL EVER BE THE WISER.
THINK OF WHAT THEY'LL DO TO DIXIE AND JILL IF I AM FOUND GUILTY PLEASE!
YES WHY DON'T YOU THINK OF THEM BEFORE YOU GOT INTO THIS MESS THEY ARE THE ONES THAT WILL SUFFER FOR YOUR DISGRACE!
I'LL WRECK THIS CAR! I COULD LOSE CONTROL AND KILL THIS AWFUL THING IF I'D WANT TO ESCAPE...
JACK IF YOU TAKE ME BACK THEY'LL PIN THE MURDERS OF THOSE ALIENS ON ME SURE... I AM DON'T KILL NOBODY
I BELIEVE THAT, BUT I CAUGHT YOU SMUGGLING NARCOTICS---THAT WILL SEND YOU TO PRISON!
BUT IT'S NOT RIGHT FOR DIXIE AND JILL TO SUFFER FROM THIS DISGRACE COTTON WILL BRING THEM I SHOULD LET HIM ESCAPE....
BUT I'M HONOR BOUND TO REPORT HIM WHEN I JOINED THE RANGER PATROL I TOOK AN OATH TO ENFORCE THE LAW ...IT'S MY DUTY...
PLEASE LET ME GO!
...STILL I CAN'T FORGET MY DUTY TO MY LOVED ONES.. WHAT MUST I DO?
THIS IS ENOUGH TO DRIVE A GUY CRAZY I SHOULD LET COTTON AND I SHOULD TAKE HIM BACK.
COMMANDER, JACK HASN'T CHECKED IN YET I FEAR HE'S RUN INTO TROUBLE WITH THE SMUGGLERS!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT JACK--IF HE'S ENCOUNTERED ANY OF THEM WE CAN DEPEND ON JACK TO BRING THEM IN!
THE RANGER PATROL

SMILIN' JACK


AND BACK HOME-
DIXIE, I JUST CAN'T STOP WORRYING OVER WHAT'S BECOME OF COTTON!
DON'T WORRY, JILL JACK WILL FIND HIM AND IF HE'S HURT OR IN TROUBLE WE CAN DEPEND ON JACK TO HELP HIM"
COTTON, I'VE MADE UP MY MIND -- THE ONLY THING TO DO IS TO TAKE YOU TO JAIL C'MON, LET'S GET GOIN'!
I PANCAKED THIS BUS IN HERE BUT TAKING OFF IS ANOTHER STORY. COTTON, HELP ME MOVE ROCKS... WE'RE GONNA CLEAR A RUNWAY!
AH'M TOO WEAK FROM MY ACCIDENT --AH CAN'T MOVE ROCKS!
YOU MIGHT AS WELL GET USED TO IT, COTTON..
YOU'RE GONNA BE MOVIN' ROCKS FOR A LONG TIME AN BY TH WAY DON'T TRY TO ESCAPE!
AW, NUTS TH' STARTER WON'T WORK MUST'VE BEEN H" BY A BULLET JUMP OUT AN SPIN TH PROP COTTON!
AH'M TOO WEAK FROM MOVIN ROCKS JACK YOU DO IT!
AND LEAVE YOU ALONE IN TH COCKPIT SO YOU COULD MAKE A SUDDEN TAKE OFF WITHOUT ME--DON'T BE SILLY!!
SPIN HARDER OR IT'LL NEVER START..THAT'S NO EGG-BEATER YOU'RE TWIRLING..
OH MY GOSH .. HE'S FAINTED! TH' POOR KID MUSTA BEEN WEAKER'N I .. THOUGHT!
WELL I GOT TH' MOTOR STARTED NOW TO PUT COTTON ABOARD THE POOR KID MUST BE IN PRETTY BAD SHAPE!
JUST AS JACK RIDES ... JACK SOARS JACK AND SLAMS THROTTLE OPEN.....
SOCK
WHAT TH' WHY TH' DOUBLE CROSSIN' LITTLE RAT HE TRICKED ME--BUT ..OR I WAS AN' DIXIE'S SAKE MAYBE IT'S BEST THAT HE ESCAPED...
RRRRRRRR...
BUT NAW HE'S ESCAPE SAY A SUCCESS YET.. HE'S MAKING A MANEUVER RIGHT NOW THAT MAY BE HIS UN-DOING!

COTTON IS CIRCLING TO GET HIS BEARINGS--BUT HE'S A SAP TO DO IT HERE WHERE I CAN SEE--HE'LL TIP HIS COURSE TO ME---
IT'S LOG CAL THAT TH' SAFEST PLACE FOR HIM IS BLOODSOE'S HIDE-OUT---LOOK--HE MUST HAVE HIS DIRECTIONS---HE'S HEADING SOUTH-EAST!
NO DOUBT THAT'S TH' COURSE TO BLOODSOE'S PLACE--BUT TH' ONLY TROUBLE IS--IT MAY BE FIFTY OR IT MAY BE A THOUSAND MILES AWAY---
--BUT REGARDLESS OF TIME OR DISTANCE--I MUST BRING COTTON IN--EVEN IF HE IS MY BROTHER-IN-LAW!!
V-A ANY MODE OF TRAVEL JACK STICKS TO COTTON'S TRAIL--
SEÑORITA, DID AN AEROPLANE PASS HERE YESTERDAY?
S. S. SEÑOR EET GO THEESE WAY!
NEXT DAY...
NO SEÑOR I NO SEE ANY AEROPLANE SINCE PILOTO LINDBERGH VISITED MEX CO!
THANKS GOSH I HAVEN'T HAD ANY LUCK TODAY!
THIS MIGHT GO ON FOR MONTHS--THIS WILD GOOSE CHASE IS TOO MUCH OF A SHOT IN TH' DARK---
---WAIT! I HAVE IT!! I KNOW WHAT'LL LEAD ME TO THEIR HIDE-OUT---WHY DIDN'T I THINK OF THIS BEFORE!!
I'LL GO TO EVERY TOWN ON THIS COURSE --AND VISIT ALL THE OIL COMPANIES--
--IT TOOK LOTS OF GAS TO RUN THAT BIG FOUR-MOTORED PLANE THAT BLOODSOE USED TO SMUGGLE WITH!
I'LL GET THE REPORTS ON EVERY LARGE ORDER OF AVIATION GAS THAT'S BEEN SOLD LATELY- AND TRACE EVERY GALLON TO THE CYLINDER THAT BURNED IT. ...
ONE OF THOSE ORDERS WILL LEAD ME TO BLOODSOE --AN' THAT SNAKE, SLITZ, WHO CUT TH'S HIDEOUS SCAR ON MY LEFT CHEEK!!

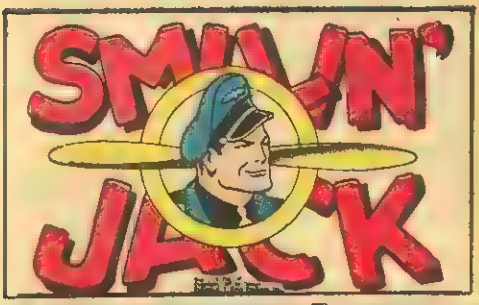
SMILIN' JACK

I'M LT. SMILIN' JACK, U.S BORDER PATROL--HERE ARE PAPERS FROM YOUR GOVERNMENT THAT GIVE ME PERMISSION TO INVESTIGATE THE SALE OF AVIATION GAS!
GLAD TO HELP I AM SENOR CARRENO --PRESIDENT OF MEXO OIL CO!
JACK VISITS ONE COMPANY AFTER ANOTHER --TRACING MANY ORDERS-- BUT ALL PROVE TO BE FOR LEGITIMATE USE--
SAY--HERE ARE SOME ODD SALES--THOUSAND GALLON ORDERS--- BOUGHT BY ONE SENOR TABASCO --NO ADDRESS!
YES. I REMEMBER HEEM. ALWAYS CAME IN HEES OWN TRUCK BUT HE NEVER TALKED
--THAT EES EXCEPT ONCE WHEN HE WAS FULL OF TEQUILA--- HE MENTIONED ZE TOWN OF TORO
TORO! WHY THAT'S IN THE MOUNTAINS--AND THERE'S NO AIRPORT--HERE SAY WE MAY BE ON TH' TRAIL!
ON TORO, JACK LOCATES SENOR TABASCO.
LISTEN F YOU DON'T EXPLAIN WHAT YOU DID WITH THAT AVIATION GAS YOU'LL BE ARRESTED FOR AIDING SMUGGLERS!
BUT I'M AFRAID ZE SENOR I SELL EET TO SAY HE WILL KEEL ME IF I TELL!
WELL F YOU DON'T TALK YOU'LL ROT IN JAIL!
NO WAIT! I TALK! I SELL GAS TO ONE ARM MAN WHO KEEPS BIG PLANE IN VALLEY ON FAR SIDE OF MOUNT LOCO. I TAKE IT TO HIM IN CANS ON BURROS!
EUREKA! THERE'S MY PLANE THAT COTTON STOLE -- AN BLOODSOE'S HIDE OUT!
GOING MOUNT LOCO JACK REACHES THE VALLEY
I'VE GOT YOU AT LAST-- --YOU MURDERERS----GRAB THAT LARIAT, COTTON--- BIND 'EM UP!
?
IT'S SUICIDE TO TRY TO TAKE THOSE MURDERERS BY MYSELF--BUT IF I GO FOR HELP THEY MIGHT LEAVE--I'VE GOTTA TRY IT ALONE!

SMILIN' JACK

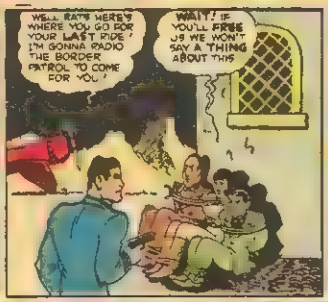
AFTER THE OTHERS ARE TIED JACK STARTS TO HANDCUFF COTTON BUT COTTON KICKS OVER A TABLE---
SHALL NEVER TAKE ME TO PRISON!
WHAT TH' COTTON STOP! DON'T FORCE ME TO SHOOT!
COTTON! PLEASE DON'T BE A FOOL IF YOU DON'T STOP I'LL HAVE TO SHOOT YOU!!
NO! YOU CAN'T SCARE ME YOU WOULDN'T DARE SHOOT ME AH'M YOUAH SWEETHEART & BROTHAH AN' YOUAH SISTAH'S HUSBAND!!
STOP COTTON! I'LL HAVE TH' DOT YOU EVER I ARE JULE'S HUSBAND AN' DAVE'S BROTHER!
AH'LL DIE BEFAH I'LL LET YOU SHOOT ME!
THIS IS MY LAST WARNING, COTTON-- I'VE GOT TO BRING YOU IN - STOP!
YOU'RE WANTED BY TH' LAW -- IT'S MY DUTY TO DO IT---
I I I MUST I HAVE GOT TO DO HERE GOES
I CAN'T SHOOT COTTON BUT I MUST NEVER TAKE HIM ALIVE HE REACHES FOR A BRUSH OR NEVER CATCH
I -- SHOOT OVER HIS HEAD -- BE THAT SCARE HIM INTO STOPPING!
BANG!
SUDDENLY JACK TRIPS THE GUN ACCIDENTALLY DISCHARGED AS IT HITS THE GROUND---
BANG!
--AND COTTON---
MY GUN WENT OFF WHEN I FELL OH! COTTON IS DOWN!

HE ISN'T
O-OH' NO' NO! IT CAN'T BE IT CAN'T BE SO!!
THANK HEAVENS!
OH
ACC-DENT'
AH WAS TO TEAM UP
DOIN' YOUR DUTY,
THEN
FORGIVE ME COTTON?
ASK FORG VENESS
ASKIN'...
COTTON--YOU
DIE
MUST LIVE!
FORGIVENESS--
--AN', JACK--IT'LL BE EASIER FO' ME
DONE--TO YOU
OF COURSE I FORGIVE YOU, COTTON OLD
--I'M GOING TO FLY YOU
GOODBYE
OH'
COTTON IS DEAD!
ACCIDENT MY GUN
KILLED COTTON'

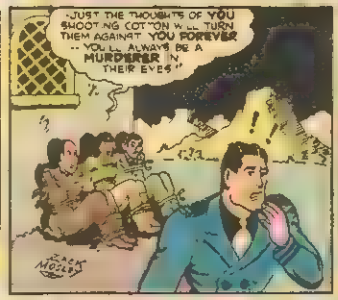


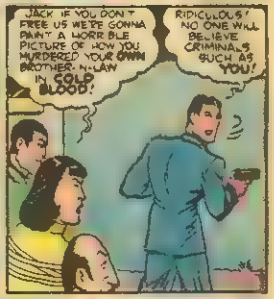
SYNOPSIS

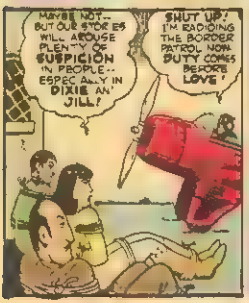
AFTER THE SMUGGLERS DESERT COTTON, HE IS CAPTURED BY SMILIN' JACK, BUT ESCAPES IN JACK'S PLANE. TRAVELING MANY MILES, JACK FINALLY LOCATES BLOODSOE'S HIDE-OUT AND SURPRISES THE GANG. COTTON ATTEMPTS TO RUN AWAY AND IS ACCIDENTALLY SHOT AND KILLED BY JACK.


WELL, RATS HERE'S WHERE YOU GO FOR YOUR LAST RIDE! I'M GONNA RADIO THE BORDER PATROL TO COME FOR YOU!
WAIT! IF YOU'LL FREE US WE WON'T SAY A THING ABOUT THIS

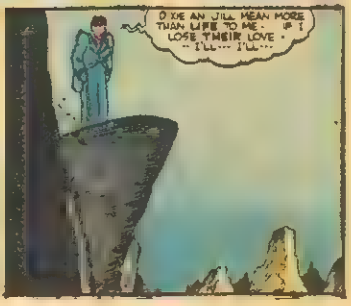
MY GUN WENT OFF WHEN I FELL --THAT WAS AN ACCIDENT!
SO WHAT! I HAPPEN TO KNOW HOW MUCH DIXIE AND JILL LOVED HIM---SUPPOSE THEY DO BELIEVE IT WAS AN ACCIDENT--




JACK IF YOU DON'T FREE US WE'RE GONNA PAINT A HORRIBLE PICTURE OF HOW YOU MURDERED YOUR OWN BROTHER-IN-LAW IN COLD BLOOD!
RIDICULOUS! NO ONE WILL BELIEVE CRIMINALS SUCH AS YOU!

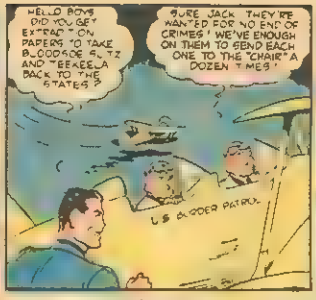

MAYBE NOT-- BUT OUR STORIES WILL AROUSE PLENTY OF SUSPICION IN PEOPLE-- ESPECIALLY IN DIXIE AN' JILL!
SHUT UP! I'M RADIOING THE BORDER PATROL NOW- DUTY COMES BEFORE LOVE!

WHAT A FOOL YOU ARE- YOU'VE STAKED DUTY AGAINST 'EM! LOVE OF YOUR SISTER AND SWEETHEART!
IT'S LIKE THE OLD SAY NO - A MAN KILLS THE THING HE LOVES MOST!"



SMILIN' JACK

IT'S GOOD TO SEE THE PATROL AGAIN!


HELLO BOYS DID YOU GET EXTRA" ON PAPERS TO TAKE BLOODSOE & TIZ AND "BEAKELA BACK TO THE STATES?
SURE JACK THEY'RE WANTED FOR NO END OF CRIMES! WE'VE ENOUGH ON THEM TO SEND EACH ONE TO THE "CHAIR" A DOZEN TIMES!
U.S. BOMBER PATROL

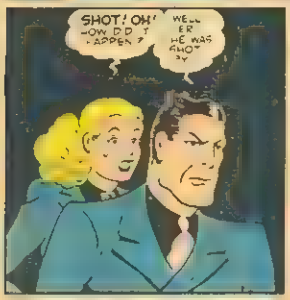
JACK MY BOY YOU'RE TO BE CONGRATULATED! SINGLE-HANDED YOU HAVE BROUGHT TO JUSTICE ONE OF THE MOST DANGEROUS BANDS OF CRIMINALS OF OUR DAY---

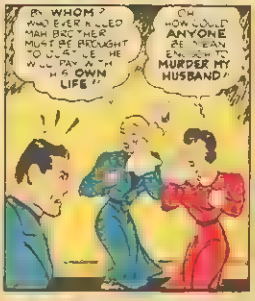
WELL WIN THE ACCLAIM OF THE NATION WHAT GLORY"
YES BUT WHAT PRICE GLORY!

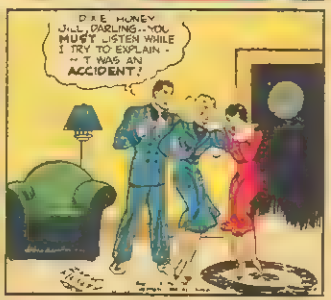
JACK MY BOY I REALIZE THE PAST WEEK IN PATROL I'LL BREAK THE BAD NEWS FOR YOU.
THANKS COMMANDER BUT I MUST TELL JILL AND DIKE MYSELF

OH, JACK, WE'RE SO HAPPY TO SEE YOU AGAIN WELL US HAVE YOU ANY NEWS OF COTTON?

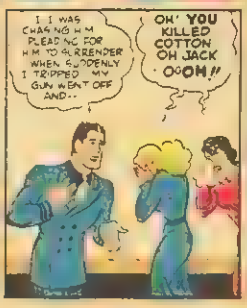
JACK JACK WHY DO YOU LOOK SO STRANGE HAS HAS SOMETHING HAPPENED TO COTTON?
YES... COTTON IS DEAD HE WAS SHOT

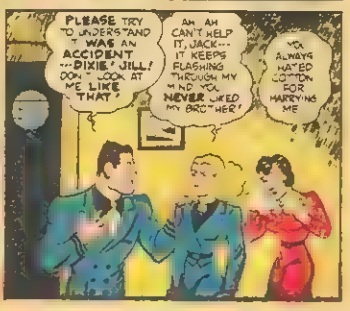

SHOT! OH! HOW DID IT HAPPEN?
WELL HE WAS SHOT BY


BY WHOM? WHOEVER KILLED MAH BROTHER MUST BE BROUGHT TO JUSTICE HE WILL PAY WITH HIS OWN LIFE!"
OH HOW COULD ANYONE BE MEAN ENOUGH TO MURDER MY HUSBAND!


DIKE HONEY JILL DARLING... YOU MUST LISTEN WHILE I TRY TO EXPLAIN -- IT WAS AN ACCIDENT!

COTTON GOT IN TO BAD COMPANY HE WAS FLYING FOR BLOODSOE AND WHEN THE GANG WAS CAPTURED COTTON WAS KILLED WHILE TRYING TO ESCAPE!
OO OH HOW HORRIBLE BY HOW WAS THAT AN ACCIDENT?


I I WAS CHANGING MY PLEADING FOR MERCY WHEN SUDDENLY I TRIPPED MY GUN WENT OFF AND--
OH! YOU KILLED COTTON OH JACK OOOH!


PLEASE TRY TO UNDERSTAND IT WAS AN ACCIDENT --DIXIE! JILL! DON'T LOOK AT ME LIKE THAT!
AH AH CAN'T HELP IT, JACK-- IT KEEPS FLASHING THROUGH MY MIND YOU NEVER LIKED MY BROTHER!
YOU ALWAYS HATED COTTON FOR MARRYING ME

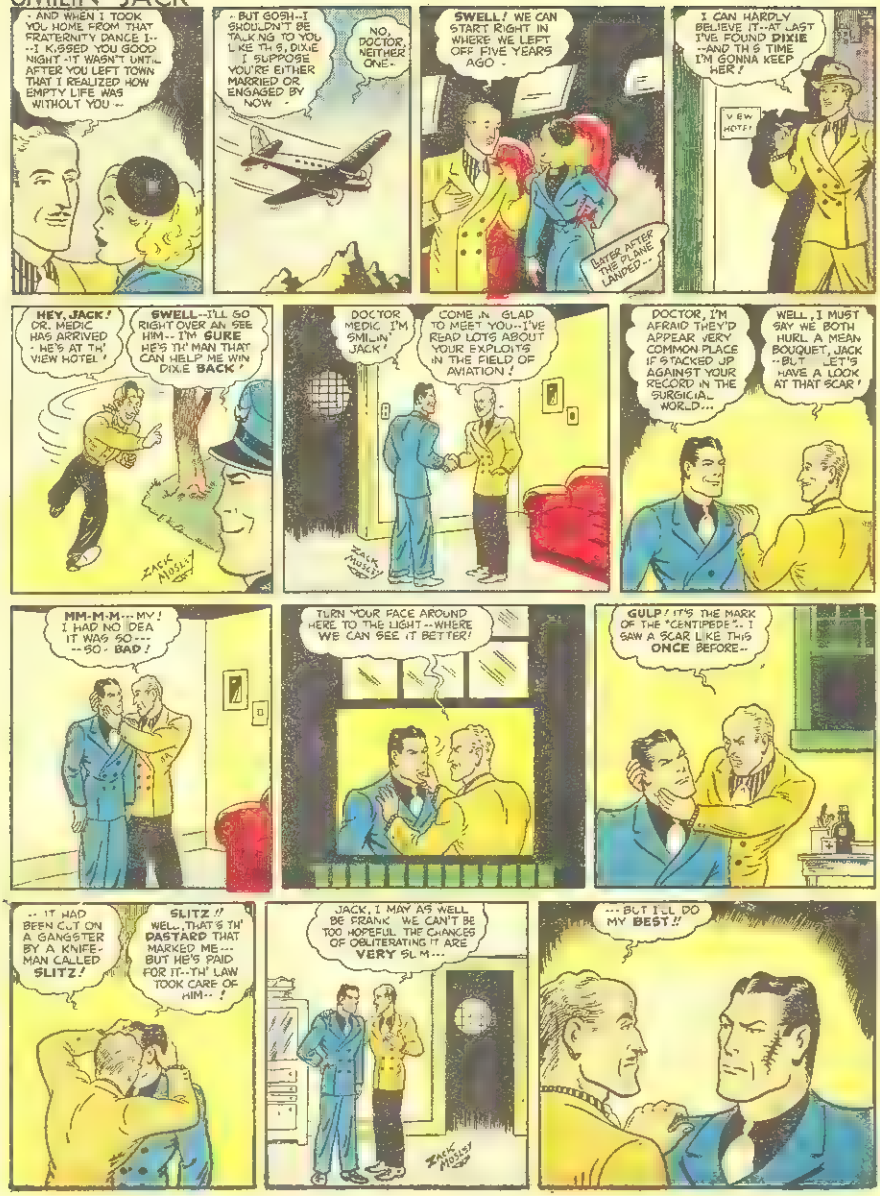
SMILIN' JACK

JILL, HONEY---PLEASE TRY TO FORGIVE YOUR BROTHER--I WOULDN'T HURT YOU FOR ANYTHING IN TH' WORLD----
--IT'S TRUE I DIDN'T XE COTTON BUT YOU MUST BELIEVE ME--IT WAS AN ACCIDENT THAT MY GUN KILLED YOUR HUSBAND.
PLEASE, JACK LEAVE ME ALONE!
DIXIE, HONEY--SURELY YOU UNDERSTAND -- DOESN'T OUR LOVE FOR EACH OTHER HELP YOU BELIEVE MY STORY--?
AH BELEVE YOU, JACK - BUT NO MATTER HOW HARD AH TRY -
--AH CAN'T FEEL THE SAME WHEN YOU KILLED COTTON- MY LOVE FOR YOU DIED WITH
SAY, JACK, I'M SHORE SORRY TO HEAR OF ALL YOUR TROUBLES --DO DIXIE AN' JILL BELEVE YOU YET?
YES--THEY REALIZE IT WAS AN ACCIDENT THAT I KILLED COTTON-- --BUT THEY DON'T FEEL TH SAME TOWARDS ME--
--ESPECIALLY DIXIE! SHE'S FORGIVEN ME BUT SHE SAYS TH' THOUGHT OF ME KILLING HER BROTHER HAS KILLED HER LOVE FOR ME!
I'VE LOST DIXIE--
POOR JACK THIS BLOW WILL JEST ABOUT WRECK HIS LIFE IF I COULD ONLY CHEER HIM UP SOMEHOW
SAY!! LOOK WHUT'S IN THIS PAPER THIS MAY BE TH ANSWER
HEY, JACK... WAIT A MINUTE!!
ZACK MOSLEY
JACK.. FOUND OUT SUMPIN THAT MAY EX SOME OF YOUR TROUBLES --BUT I HARDLY KNOW HOW TO SAY HIT--
YOU KNOW ME WELL ENOUGH TO SPEAK FREELY -- WHAT IS IT?
HIT'S KINDA PERSONAL - BUT HIT'S ABOUT THAT SCAR ON YOUR LEFT CHEEK---I JES' READ WHERE DR GORDON MED.C. TH' FAMOUS PLASTIC SURGEON, IS COMING HERE --
ZACK MOSLEY
- MAYBE YOU CAN GET HIM TO REMOVE IT FOR YOU"
YEAH, RUFUS, I KNOW IT'S AN AWFUL LOOKING THING - BUT WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE?
A GUY ONLY NEEDS A "PRETTY FACE" IF HE HAS A GIRL--AND--WELL, YOU KNOW HOW I RATE ON THAT SCORE"

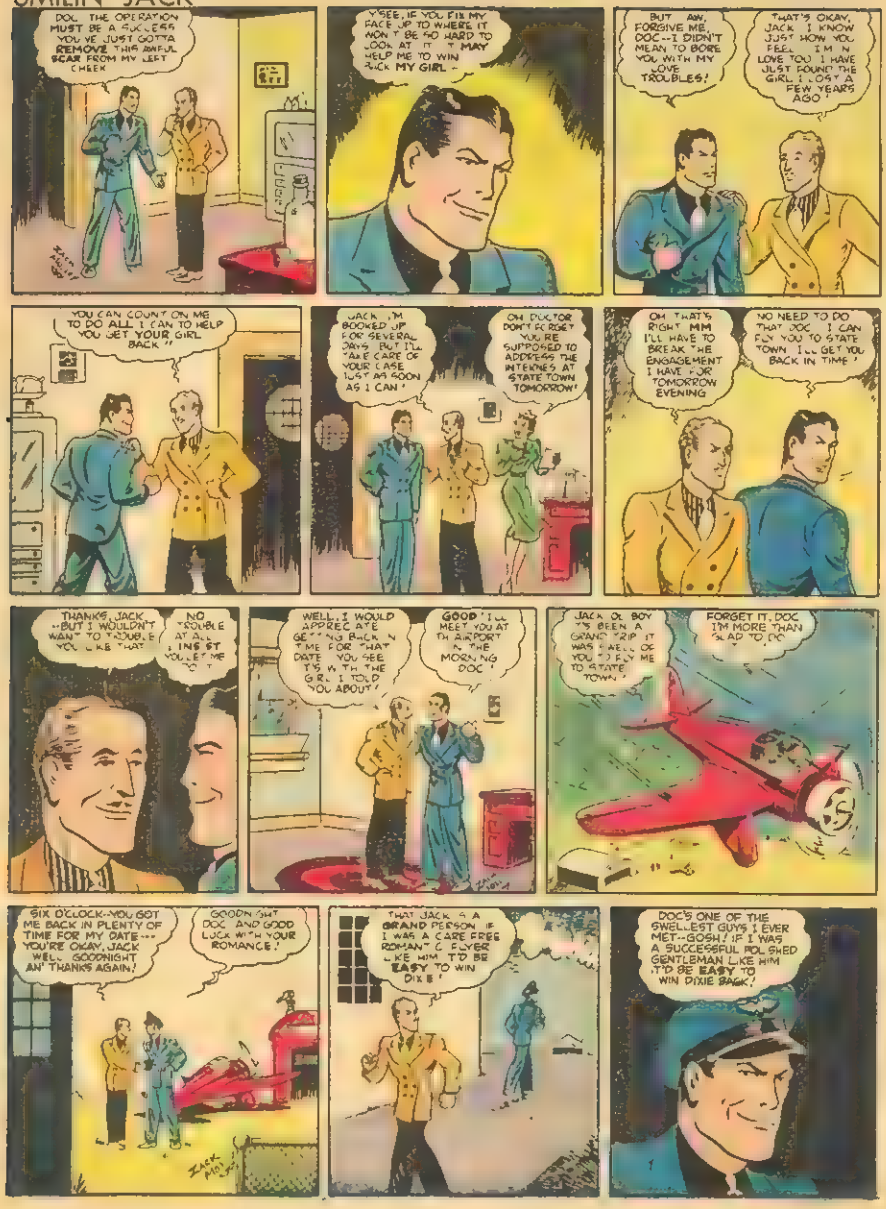
SMILIN' JACK

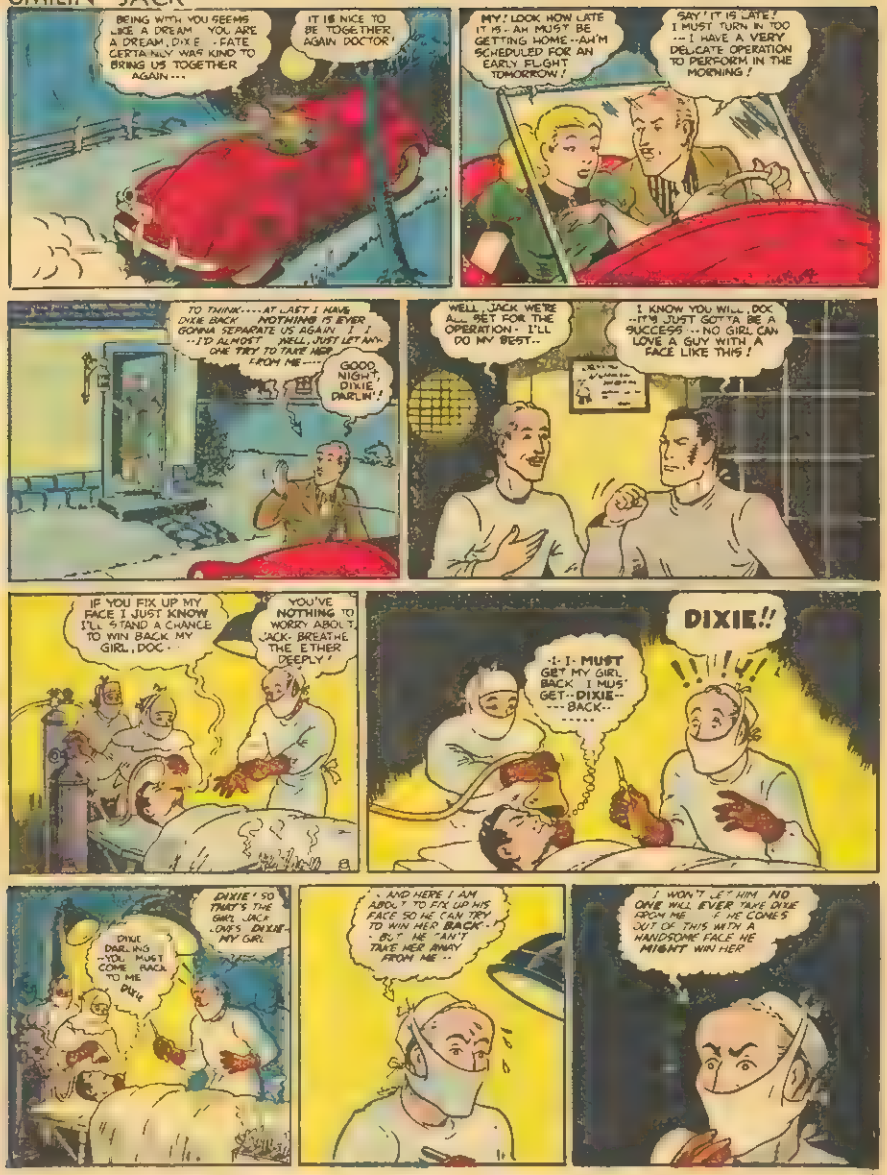
WELL, JACK THAT'S JEST TH' POINT--YOU'VE LOST DIXIE AN' YOU ORTA DO SOMETHING TO WIN HER BACK!
IF YOU'LL GIT YOUR FACE OPERATED ON--TEST TH' FACT THAT YOU'RE LAID UP IN A HOSP TAL IS BOUND TO HAVE SOME EFFECT ON DIXIE--
--AN' IF THEY CAN REMOVE THAT SCAR YOU MIGHT LOOK SO HANDSOME DIXIE WOULD FALL IN LOVE WITH YOU ALL OVER AGAIN!
RUFUS OL' PAL, YOU MAY HAVE SOMETHING THERE--
--IT'S WORTH A TRY--C'MON, I'M GONNA TELEGRAPH DR. MEDIC RIGHT NOW!
ZACK'S ABILITY
LOOK, RUFUS! A WIRE FROM DR. MEDIC--HE SAYS HE'LL BE GLAD TO SEE WHAT HE CAN DO FOR MY FACE WHEN HE ARRIVES . .
--AND ALSO, HERE'S AN ANSWER FROM TH' BORDER PATROL --THEY'VE GRANTED ME AN EXTENDED LEAVE OF ABSENCE!
OH BOY! THINGS ARE LOOKIN' UP!
BUT AT THIS INSTANT ON AN AIRLINER, CARRYING DIXIE AS HOSTESS, WE SEE ~~~~
--SAY, AREN'T YOU DR. GORDON MEDIC FROM .
DIXIE LEE --OF ALL PEOPLE!! -- WHY--YOU'VE GROWN SO BEAUTIFUL I DIDN'T RECOGNIZE YOU---!!
DIXIE! I CAN'T BELIEVE MY EYES IMAGINE US MEETING LIKE THIS--AFTER ALL THESE YEARS .
YES, DOCTOR--TH' LAST TIME AH SAW YOU AH NEVER DREAMED OUR NEXT MEETING WOULD BE 5,000 FEET ABOVE IOWA CORN FIELDS!
WHY I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU SINCE YOU WERE A STUDENT NURSE AT THAT CHICAGO HOSPITAL WHERE I WAS AN INTERNE--THAT WAS FIVE YEARS AGO --
MY' MY' HAS IT BEEN THAT LONG? WHERE ALL HAVE YOU BEEN SINCE THEN??
TELL ME ABOUT SOME OF TH' BIG SURGICAL CASES YOU'VE HAD---
NOW DIXIE LET'S NOT TALK SHOP
--LET'S TALK ABOUT YOU!! REMEMBER WHEN WE ~~~~

SMILIN' JACK

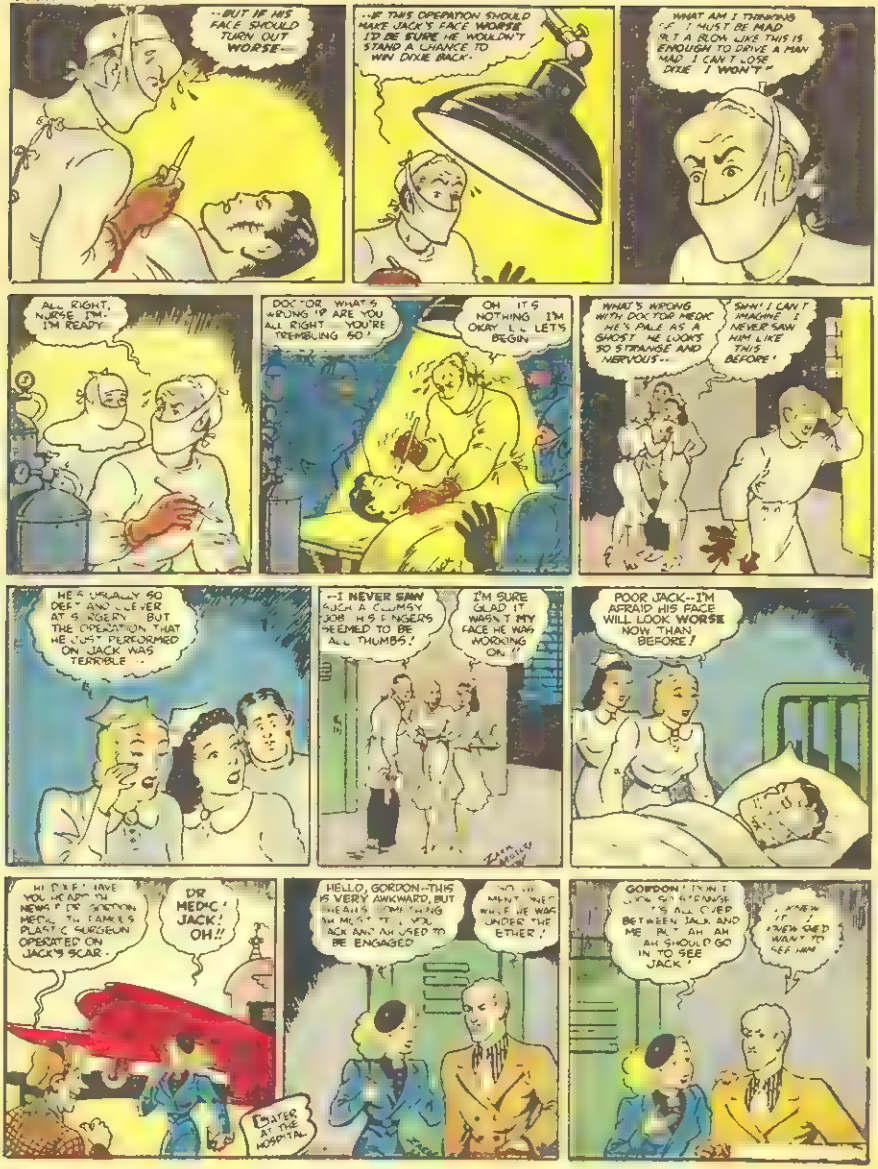

- AND WHEN I TOOK YOU HOME FROM THAT FRATERNITY DANCE I-- --I KISSED YOU GOOD NIGHT -IT WASN'T UNTIL AFTER YOU LEFT TOWN THAT I REALIZED HOW EMPTY LIFE WAS WITHOLT YOU --
- BUT GOSH--I SHOULDN'T BE TALKING TO YOU LIKE TH S, DIXIE I SUPPOSE YOU'RE EITHER MARRIED OR ENGAGED BY NOW
NO, DOCTOR NEITHER ONE-
SWELL! WE CAN START RIGHT IN WHERE WE LEFT OFF FIVE YEARS AGO -
LATER AFTER THE PLANE LANDED--
I CAN HARDLY BELIEVE IT--AT LAST I'VE FOUND DIXIE --AND TH S TIME I'M GONNA KEEP HER!
V EW HOTF!
HEY, JACK! DR. MEDIC HAS ARRIVED - HE'S AT TH' VIEW HOTEL!
SWELL--I'LL GO RIGHT OVER AN SEE HIM-- I'M SURE HE'S TH' MAN THAT CAN HELP ME WIN DIXIE BACK!
ZACK MOSLEY
DOCTOR MEDIC I'M SMILIN' JACK!
COME IN GLAD TO MEET YOU--I'VE READ LOTS ABOUT YOUR EXPLOITS IN THE FIELD OF AVIATION!
ZACK MOSLEY
DOCTOR, I'M AFRAID THEY'D APPEAR VERY COMMON PLACE IF S'TACKED UP AGAINST YOUR RECORD IN THE SURGICIA... WORLD...
WELL, I MUST SAY WE BOTH HURL A MEAN BOUQUET, JACK --BUT LET'S HAVE A LOOK AT THAT SCAR!
MM-M-M--- MY! I HAD NO IDEA IT WAS SO--- --SO- BAD!
TURN YOUR FACE AROUND HERE TO THE LIGHT--WHERE WE CAN SEE IT BETTER!
GULP! IT'S THE MARK OF THE "CENTIPEDE"... I SAW A SCAR LIKE THIS ONCE BEFORE--
-- IT HAD BEEN CUT ON A GANGSTER BY A KNIFE-MAN CALLED SLITZ!
SLITZ!! WELL, THAT'S TH' DASTARD THAT MARKED ME--- BUT HE'S PAID FOR IT--TH' LAW TOOK CARE OF HIM--!
JACK, I MAY AS WELL BE FRANK WE CAN'T BE TOO HOPEFUL THE CHANCES OF OBLITERATING IT ARE VERY SLM---
ZACK MOSLEY
--- BUT I'LL DO MY BEST!!

SMILIN' JACK


DOC, THE OPERATION MUST BE A SUCCESS YOU'VE JUST GOTTA REMOVE THIS AWFUL SCAR FROM MY LEFT CHEEK
Y'SEE, IF YOU FIX MY FACE UP TO WHERE IT WON'T BE SO HARD TO LOOK AT IT MAY HELP ME TO WIN RICK MY GIRL
BUT AW, FORGIVE ME, DOC--I DIDN'T MEAN TO BORE YOU WITH MY LOVE TROUBLES!
THAT'S OKAY, JACK I KNOW JUST HOW YOU FEEL. I'M IN LOVE TOO I HAVE JUST FOUND THE GIRL I LOST A FEW YEARS AGO
YOU CAN COUNT ON ME TO DO ALL I CAN TO HELP YOU GET YOUR GIRL BACK "
JACK, I'M BOOKED UP FOR SEVERAL DAYS BUT I'LL TAKE CARE OF YOUR CASE JUST AS SOON AS I CAN '
OH DOCTOR DON'T FORGET YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO ADDRESS THE INTERNES AT STATE TOWN TOMORROW'
OH THAT'S RIGHT HM I'LL HAVE TO BREAK THE ENGAGEMENT I HAVE FOR TOMORROW EVENING
NO NEED TO DO THAT DOC I CAN FLY YOU TO STATE TOWN I'LL GET YOU BACK IN TIME '
THANKS JACK --BUT I WOULDN'T WANT TO TROUBLE YOU LIKE THAT
NO TROUBLE AT ALL INSIST YOU LET ME
WELL, I WOULD APPRECIATE GETTING BACK IN TIME FOR THAT DATE YOU SEE I'M WITH THE GIRL I TOLD YOU ABOUT '
GOOD ' I'LL MEET YOU AT TH AIRPORT IN THE MORNING DOC '
JACK OL BOY IT'S BEEN A GRAND TRIP IT WAS KIND OF YOU TO FLY ME TO STATE TOWN
FORGET IT, DOC I'M MORE THAN GLAD TO DO
SIX O'CLOCK--YOU GOT ME BACK IN PLENTY OF TIME FOR MY DATE--- YOU'RE OKAY, JACK WELL GOODNIGHT AN' THANKS AGAIN!
GOODNIGHT DOC AND GOOD LUCK WITH YOUR ROMANCE!
THAT JACK IS A GRAND PERSON IF I WAS A CARE FREE ROMANTIC FLYER LIKE HIM I'D BE EASY TO WIN DIXIE '
DOC'S ONE OF THE SWELLEST GUYS I EVER MET--GOSH! IF I WAS A SUCCESSFUL ROLSHED GENTLEMAN LIKE HIM I'D BE EASY TO WIN DIXIE BACK!


BEING WITH YOU SEEMS LIKE A DREAM YOU ARE A DREAM, DIXIE · FATE CERTAINLY WAS KIND TO BRING US TOGETHER AGAIN···
IT IS NICE TO BE TOGETHER AGAIN DOCTOR'
MY! LOOK HOW LATE IT IS · AM MUST BE GETTING HOME··AM'M SCHEDULED FOR AN EARLY FLIGHT TOMORROW!
SAY! IT IS LATE! I MUST TURN IN TOO ··I HAVE A VERY DELICATE OPERATION TO PERFORM IN THE MORNING!
TO THINK···· AT LAST I HAVE DIXIE BACK NOTHING IS EVER GONNA SEPARATE US AGAIN I ! ··I'D ALMOST WELL, JUST LET ANY ONE TRY TO TAKE HER FROM ME····
GOOD NIGHT, DIXIE DARLIN'!
WELL JACK WE'RE ALL SET FOR THE OPERATION· I'LL DO MY BEST··
I KNOW YOU WILL, DOC ··IT'S JUST GOTTA BE A SUCCESS ··NO GIRL CAN LOVE A GUY WITH A FACE LIKE THIS!
IF YOU FIX UP MY FACE I JUST KNOW I'LL STAND A CHANCE TO WIN BACK MY GIRL, DOC·
YOU'VE NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT, JACK· BREATHE THE ETHER DEEPLY'
DIXIE!!
·I· I· MUST GET MY GIRL BACK I MUS GET··DIXIE·· ····BACK··
DIXIE' SO THAT'S THE GIRL JACK LOVES DIXIE· MY GIRL
DIXIE DARLING ··YOU MUST COME BACK TO ME Dixie
·AND HERE I AM ABOUT TO FIX UP HIS FACE SO HE CAN TRY TO WIN HER BACK· · BUT HE AIN'T TAKE HER AWAY FROM ME··
I WON'T LET HIM NO ONE WILL EVER TAKE DIXIE FROM ME · HE COMES OUT OF THIS WITH A HANDSOME FACE HE MIGHT WIN HER

SMILIN' JACK


..BUT IF HIS FACE SHOULD TURN OUT WORSE—
..IF THIS OPERATION SHOULD MAKE JACK'S FACE WORSE I'D BE SURE HE WOULDN'T STAND A CHANCE TO WIN DIXIE BACK.
WHAT AM I THINKING OF ! MUST BE MAD IS A BLOW LIKE THIS IS ENOUGH TO DRIVE A MAN MAD ! CAN'T LOSE DIXIE ! WON'T"
ALL RIGHT, NURSE I'M I'M READY.
DOCTOR WHAT'S WRONG ? ARE YOU ALL RIGHT ? YOU'RE TREMBLING SO !
OH IT'S NOTHING I'M OKAY ! LET'S BEGIN
WHAT'S WRONG WITH DOCTOR MEDIC HE'S PALE AS A GHOST HE LOOKS SO STRANGE AND NERVOUS..
SHH ! I CAN'T IMAGINE I NEVER SAW HIM LIKE THIS BEFORE !
HE'S USUALLY SO DEFT AND CLEVER AT SURGERY BUT THE OPERATION THAT HE JUST PERFORMED ON JACK WAS TERRIBLE ..
..I NEVER SAW SUCH A CLUMSY JOB HIS FINGERS SEEMED TO BE ALL THUMBS !
I'M SURE GLAD IT WASN'T MY FACE HE WAS WORKING ON !!
POOR JACK--I'M AFRAID HIS FACE WILL LOOK WORSE NOW THAN BEFORE !
HI DIXIE ! HAVE YOU HEARD THE NEWS ? DR GORDON MEDIC THANKS PLASTIC SURGEON OPERATED ON JACK'S SCAR.
DR MEDIC ! JACK ! OH !!
HELLO, GORDON--THIS IS VERY AWKWARD, BUT I MEANS SOMETHING TO ME, IF YOU JACK AND I'M USED TO BE ENGAGED
NO, NO MENT WHILE HE WAS UNDER THE ETHER !
GORDON ! I'M IN LOVE WITH SOMEONE ELSE ALL OVER BETWEEN JACK AND ME I OH I AM SHOULD GO IN TO SEE JACK !
I KNEW IT ! I KNEW SHE'D WANT TO SEE HIM
LATER AT THE HOSPITAL

SMILIN' JACK
SYNOPSIS
JACK, WHO HAS LOST DIXIE BECAUSE OF COTTON'S DEATH, HIRES DR. GORDON MEDIC TO REMOVE THE CENTIPEDE SCAR FROM HIS FACE. DR. MEDIC, AN OLD SWEETHEART OF DIXIE'S AND IN LOVE WITH HER AGAIN, DISCOVERS DURING THE OPERATION THAT JACK ALSO LOVES DIXIE AND HOPES TO WIN HER BACK.
OH, DIXIE... YOU'VE MADE ME TH' HAPPIEST PERSON N TH' WORLD BY COMIN' TO SEE ME BUT I JUST KNEW YOU'D COME BACK TO ME!
-ER GULP- IT'S GREAT TO SEE YOU GETTING ALONG SO FINE, JACK--- WELL, AH MUST BE GOING.. GOODBYE, JACK...
OH, GORDON -THIS IS AWFUL-- JACK MISUNDERSTOOD MAH VISIT HE THINKS AH'M IN LOVE WITH HIM AGAIN!
WELL -- ARE YOU?
NO--JACK ACCIDENTALLY KILLED MAH BROTHER AN' THAT KILLED MAH LOVE FOR HIM AN' YET- AH CAN'T BEAR TO THINK OF TELLING HIM ABOUT YOU AN' ME--IT'LL HURT HIM SO!
YES THIS IS A ROTTEN MESS! HE THINKS I'M TOPS-- HE WAS COUNTING ON ME TO HELP HIM WIN YOU BACK!!
OH, GORDON! WHAT WILL WE DO?!
GORDON IT'S AWFUL BUT THE ONLY THING AH CAN DO IS TELL JACK THAT HE'S MISTAKEN ABOUT ME LOVING HIM --AND THAT AH'VE BEEN GOING WITH YOU--
YES, DIXIE WE MIGHT AS WELL TELL HIM NOW-- THE LONGER WE WAIT THE WORSE IT'LL BE!
HELLO, DIXIE HONEY I WAS HOPING YOU'D COME TO SEE ME AGAIN TODAY AND DOC YOU OL RASCAL - HOW'S THINGS BY YOU?
HELLO, JACK--- THERE'S SOMETHING AH--ER-- --WE--
OH AH CAN'T DO IT-- AH CAN'T HURT JACK LIKE THAT--
SAY..WHAT'S THIS? DIXIE RUNS OUTTA TH' ROOM-- --AND YOU LOOK SO STRANGE--- WHAT'S WRONG, DOC?
WELL-- -ER- IT'S LIKE THIS, JACK...

SMILIN' JACK

NURSE IN CHARGE
ALL THIS AIR OF
WERE SWEETHEARTS
BEEN GOING TOGETHER AGAIN LATELY-
WHY YOU DOUBLE-CROSSER--AN' ALL TH' PRETEND NG MY FR END!
JACK 'JACK'
CO- INCIDENCES
HE'D ALMOST KILL
AT HER---
--WHY THAT'S RUMORS AROUND THAT HE MIGHT HAVE CUT YER FACE UP WORSE THAN EVER!
WELL, THAT THOUGHT WAS FLASHED
MIND?
I KNOW HE
THAT FAR!
SOME AWFUL THINGS
BY JEALOUSY'
HEY
BANDAGE
R.GHT AWAY--- DR MEDIC 'S HERE NOW
MY GOSH JACK
YES
TRULY THANKFUL
I SUPPOSE THE GENTLEMANLY THING WOULD BE FOR ME TO BOW OUT OF TH' PICTURE AND LEAVE TH' FIELD CLEAR FOR YOU I CAN'T GIVE UP DIXIE!!
YES, JACK, AND IF I COULD BE A GENTLEMAN ABOUT THIS I DO A FADE
CAN T UP DIXIE, E THER!!
DIVE TEST A NEW ARMY JOB---
NO RETURN?
FIFTEEN HUNDRED BUCKS
WHERE'S YOUR PATRIOTISM?
CASE OF WAR?
PLANE ARRIVE?
EXACTLY

SMILIN' JACK

JACK, PLEASE TRY TO UNDERSTAND AH'VE TRIED MAH BEST TO FEEL THE SAME AS AH USED TO ABOUT YOU....
AH HOLD NOTHING AGAINST YOU--AH KNOW IT WAS AN ACCIDENT BUT THE THOUGHT THAT I WAS YOU THAT KILLED MAH BROTHAH WILL ALWAYS HAUNT ME. THAT TRAGEDY KILLED ALL MAH LOVE FO' YOU JACK
--SINCE THEN AH HAVE FALLEN IN LOVE WITH DOCTOR MEDIC -- IN FACT AH'VE PROMISED TO MARRY HIM. AH -- AH GUESS THIS IS GOODBYE, JACK -
SURE JACK THAT TEST PILOT'S JOB IS STILL OPEN--- BUT YOU SAID THE OTHER DAY IT WAS TOO DANGEROUS FOR YOU..
SHUT UP!! WHEN DO I START?
MM-M! THIS CONTRACT STATES I GET $1500 WHEN I COMPLETE THIS SERIES OF TESTS FOR THE SKY-DEVIL AIRCRAFT CO. ---OKAY--- I'LL SIGN!
GOOD! WE'LL LET YOU KNOW WHEN TH' X-13 IS READY TO TEST!
THE X-13? I THOUGHT YOU BIRDS FINISHED THAT SHIP LAST WEEK---
WE DID! THIS IS A SISTER SHIP WE'RE BUILDING NOW--!
WELL, WHERE'S THE ORIGINAL X-13. OH, I SEE YOU MEAN.
YES IN TH' TERMINAL VELOCITY DIVE IT "UNDRESSED" ---SHED ITS WINGS!
SAY THAT'S TOUGH AN' THE PILOT--WAS HE ABLE TO BAIL OUT?
NO POOR CHAP! TH' WINGS PINNED HIM IN--BUT YOU'VE NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT JACK. WE ALWAYS COVER OUR PILOTS WITH A $15,000 INSURANCE POLICY!
JACK I JES' HEARD YOU'RE GONNA BE A TEST PILOT- SURELY YOU AIN'T CRAZY ENOUGH TO DO THAT!!
TH' WAY I'VE FELT SINCE I HEARD THAT DIXIE'S GONNA MARRY DOC I'M JUST ABOUT CRAZY ENOUGH TO DO ANYTHING -SAY, RUFUS- D'YA KNOW WHERE DOC IS?
WHY I SEEN HIM GOIN' INTO OAK'S FURNITURE STORE A FEW MINUTES AGO!
OH MY GOSH! I SHOULDN'T HAVE TOLD JACK WHERE DOC'S TH-RAVE OF JACK'S N THERE'S NO TELLIN' WHAT HE'S APT TER DO - DOC WHY HE MIGHT EVEN KILL HIM!

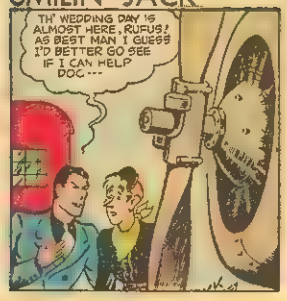
SMILIN' JACK

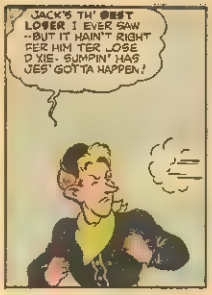
WELL, IF IT ISN'T JACK GRAY! I DON'T THINK YOU'D EVER SPEAK TO ME AGAIN!
I WAS BURNED UP AT FIRST DOC BUT I'VE GOT OVER IT. FOR ME IS GONE AND IT'S NO FAULT OF YOURS
YOU WON HER FAIR AN SQUARE SO I WANT TO TRY TO BE A GOOD LOSER! CONGRATULATIONS!
JACK YOU'RE TOPS! I'M TRULY SORRY ABOUT IT ALL. IT'S A SHAME DIXIE WASN'T TWINS!
WELL, ANYWAY WE'RE STILL FRIENDS DOC? SHAKE!
GOOD! JACK, IF YOU WOULDN'T THINK ME A GLOAT NO CAD I'D ASK YOU TO DO ME A FAVOR BY AN EXPERT?
WHAT IS IT DOC I'LL DO ANYTHING! CAN FOR YOU! AFTER ALL THINK WHAT YOU DID FOR ME WHEN YOU FIXED MY FACE!
WELL JACK PLEASE BE EVE THIS I WOULD SINCERELY LIKE FOR YOU TO BE MY BEST MAN!"
RUFUS DID YOU KNOW JACK'S SIGNED UP TO DIVE TEST TH' X 13 'S AFTER SHIP WHEN IT'S FINISHED?
YEAH -I KNOW--I BEEN TRYING TO TALK HIM OUT OF IT "THAT X-13 JOB IS A "KILLER"
YOU KNOW, RUFUS MAYBE I WAS TOO HASTY I DON'T SEE HOW I CAN STAND UP UNDER TH' STRAIN!
HOW YOU'RE TALK'N JACK!
I KNEW YOU WAS TOO SMART TO DO THEM AWFUL 9-G DIVES TEST PILOTING IS SUICIDE!
TEST PILOTING? THAT'S NOT TH ORDEAL I'M WORRIED ABOUT "RACK'NG UP UNDER
..T'S DIXIE'S WEDDING! I PROMISED DOC I'D BE HIS BEST MAN!
HELLO, BOYS...
HI, JACK!
POOR OL' JACK ALWAYS LEADING WITH HIS CHIN DIDJA KNOW HE'S SIGNED UP TO DIVE TEST TH' X-13 JOB?
YOU WOULDN'T GET ME IN THAT COFF'N IT'S NOTHING BUT A MOTOR WITH TWO SHORT PRAYERS FOR WINGS!
YEAH! IT'S A KILLER! THAT MODEL HAS ALREADY MADE MINCE MEAT JUTTA ONE PILOT!
AN THAT'S NOT TH' ONLY CRAZY THING JACK'S MIXED UP IN HEAR HE'S GONNA BE CO-PILOT AT HIS OWN SWEETHEART'S WEDDING!
WELL, IF YOU ASK ME- IT SAY JACK'S A BIT SCREWY!
YEAH AN YOU'D BE TOO IF YOUR LOVE AFFAIR HAD JUST GONE INTO A TAIL-SPIN LIKE JACK'S!

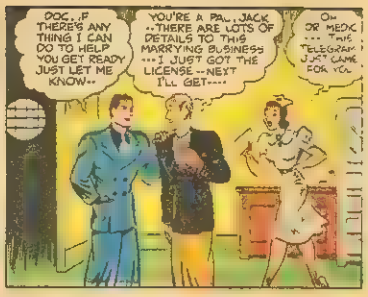
SMILIN' JACK

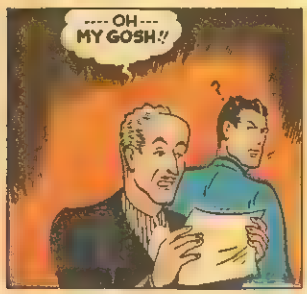
JACK, YOU'VE GOTTA GIVE UP TH' IDEA OF TEST PILOTING --IT'S SHORE TO KILL YOU!
WELL--WHAT IF IT DOES? NOTHING MATTERS ANY MORE!
JILL'S DOWN N MIAMI TRAINING TO BE A NURSE · YOU'LL BE LEAVING FOR YOUR NEW JOB N SEATTLE IN A FEW DAYS--AND --AND DIXIE'S GONNA MARRY DOC --
--BUT DON'T WORRY RUFUS --I WON'T GET KILLED--THAT PLANE WILL STAND TH' STRAIN!
MAYBE SO, JACK BUT KIN YOU? YOU MUST KNOW HOW TERRIBLE THOSE POWER DIVE PULL OUTS ARE-- SOMETIMES THEY TEAR YOU TO PIECES INSIDE---
--AN' THAT'D BE WORSE THAN DEATH!!
JACK, I BEG YOU NOT TO BE A TEST PILOT--TEAR UP THAT CONTRACT BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!
NO RUFUS I'VE MADE MY BED AND I'LL FLY IN IT!!
LATER
JACK HERE'S A FELLER I'D LIKE YOU TO KNOW MEET GUL VER WING!
?
WHAT A PATHETIC PERSON! SUCH A HAUNTING LOOK IN HIS EYES--SEEMED AFRAID OF EVERYTHING--POOR FELLOW!
YES, HE'S LOST HIS NERVE AN' EVERYTHING --HE'S A HUMAN WRECK!
, IT'S A SHAME -- WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM?
HE · WAS A TEST PILOT·· · ONCE!
JACK, YOU'RE NUTS FOR BEING A TEST PILOT-- FOR TH' LAST TIME I ASK YOU--GIVE UP THIS SUICIDE RACKET!
NO! BESIDES, I CAN'T WORRY ABOUT THAT NOW. I'VE GOTTA ROUND UP SOME DRESS CLOTHES IF I'M TO BE BEST MAN-- AT--DIXIE'S WEDDING!
YES, AN' THAT'S ANOTHER REASON WHY I THINK YOU'RE NUTS!
UNDER TH' CIRCUMSTANCES IT'S TH' ONLY GENTLEMANLY THING TO DO!
WELL ANYWAY, JACK I CAN'T HELP BUT FEEL THAT SOME WAY -SOME HOW -- SOMETHING WILL HAPPEN SO THAT YOU WON'T LOSE DIXIE!
THANKS FOR TH' OPTIMISM, RUFUS - BUT I'M AFRAID TH' DAY OF MIRACLES S PAST!

SMILIN' JACK


TH' WEDDING DAY IS ALMOST HERE, RUFUS! AS BEST MAN I GUESS I'D BETTER GO SEE IF I CAN HELP DOC---

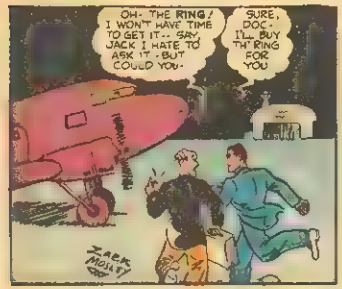

JACK'S TH' BEST LOSER I EVER SAW --BUT IT HAIN'T RIGHT FER HIM TER LOSE D'XIE. SUMPIN' HAS JES' GOTTA HAPPEN!


DOC..F THERE'S ANY THING I CAN DO TO HELP YOU GET READY JUST LET ME KNOW--
YOU'RE A PAL, JACK --THERE ARE LOTS OF DETAILS TO THIS MARRYING BUSINESS ---I JUST GOT THE LICENSE--NEXT I'LL GET----
OH DR MEDIC --- THIS TELEGRAM JUST CAME FOR YOU.


---- OH--- MY GOSH!!

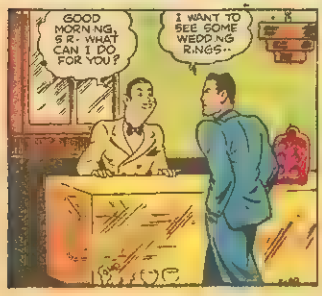
WHAT'S WRONG, DOC?
I HAFTA PERFORM AN EMERGENCY OPERATION FOR A FRIEND I MUST RETURN TO MY HOME TOWN AT ONCE!

WELL YOU'VE JUST TIME TO CATCH TH LAST AIRLINER TODAY!
ACCORDING TO THIS SCHEDULE I CAN OPERATE AND CATCH A PLANE THAT'LL GET ME BACK IN TIME FOR THE WEDDING--


OH- THE RING! I WON'T HAVE TIME TO GET IT-- SAY, JACK I HATE TO ASK IT -BUT COULD YOU--
SURE, DOC- I'LL BUY TH' RING FOR YOU
ZAEK MOLAY

THANKS A MILLION, JACK! MM NOW LET'S SEE --WHAT SIZE RING DOES DIXIE WEAR?
DON'T WORRY ABOUT THAT, DOC.

I KNOW THE SIZE

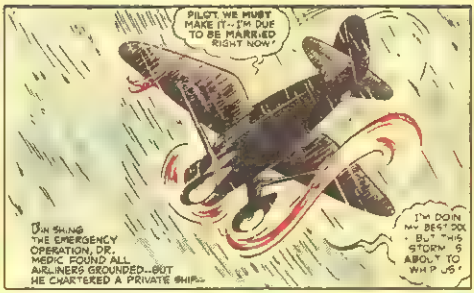

GOOD MORNING, SIR- WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU?
I WANT TO SEE SOME WEDDING RINGS--

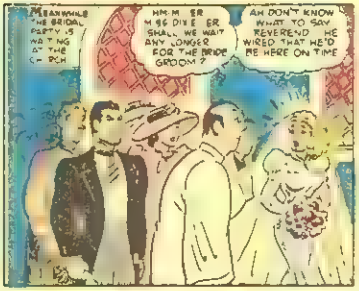
HERE'S A LOVELY DESIGN --THE GIRLS SIMPLY ADORE IT---
OKAY I'LL TAKE IT---SIZE FOUR.

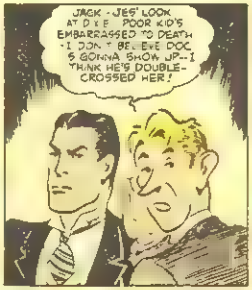
SIZE FOUR - MY' HOW DAINTY --- SUCH A SMALL HAND

SMILIN' JACK

YO R BRIDE TO-BE MUST BE HEAVENLY .. LET ME W SH YOU ALL THE HAPPINESS N THE WORLD YOU LUCKY BOY!!

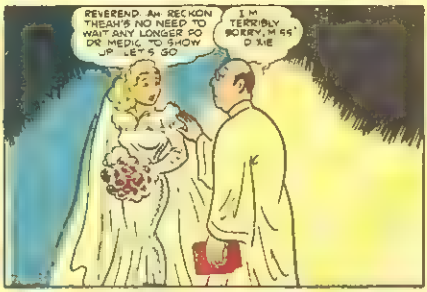

PILOT WE MUST MAKE IT--I'M DUE TO BE MARRIED RIGHT NOW!
I'M DOIN MY BEST DOC - BUT THIS STORM S ABOUT TO WH P US!
DIN SHING THE EMERGENCY OPERATION, DR. MEDIC FOUND ALL AIRLINERS GROUNDED--BUT HE CHARTERED A PRIVATE SHIP--

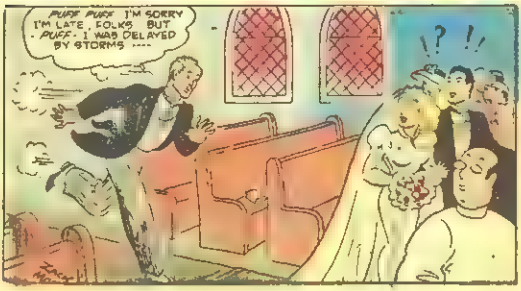

MEANWHILE THE BRIDAL PARTY IS WAITING AT THE CHURCH
MR MINISTER SHALL WE WAIT ANY LONGER FOR THE BRIDE GROOM?
AH DON'T KNOW WHUT TO SAY REVEREND HE WIRED THAT HE'D BE HERE ON TIME

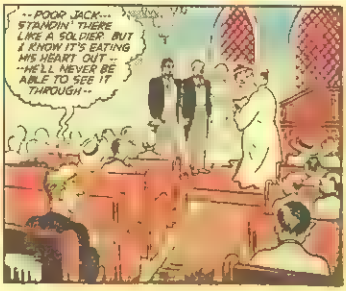

JACK - JES' LOOK AT DIE POOR KID'S EMBARRASSED TO DEATH - I DON'T BELIEVE DOC S GONNA SHOW UP--I THINK HE'S DOUBLE-CROSSED HER!

IT'S A SHAME NOT TO HAVE A WEDDIN W'H EVERBODY ALL DRESSED UP 'N EVERYTHING SAY JACK THAT GIVES ME AN IDEAR!

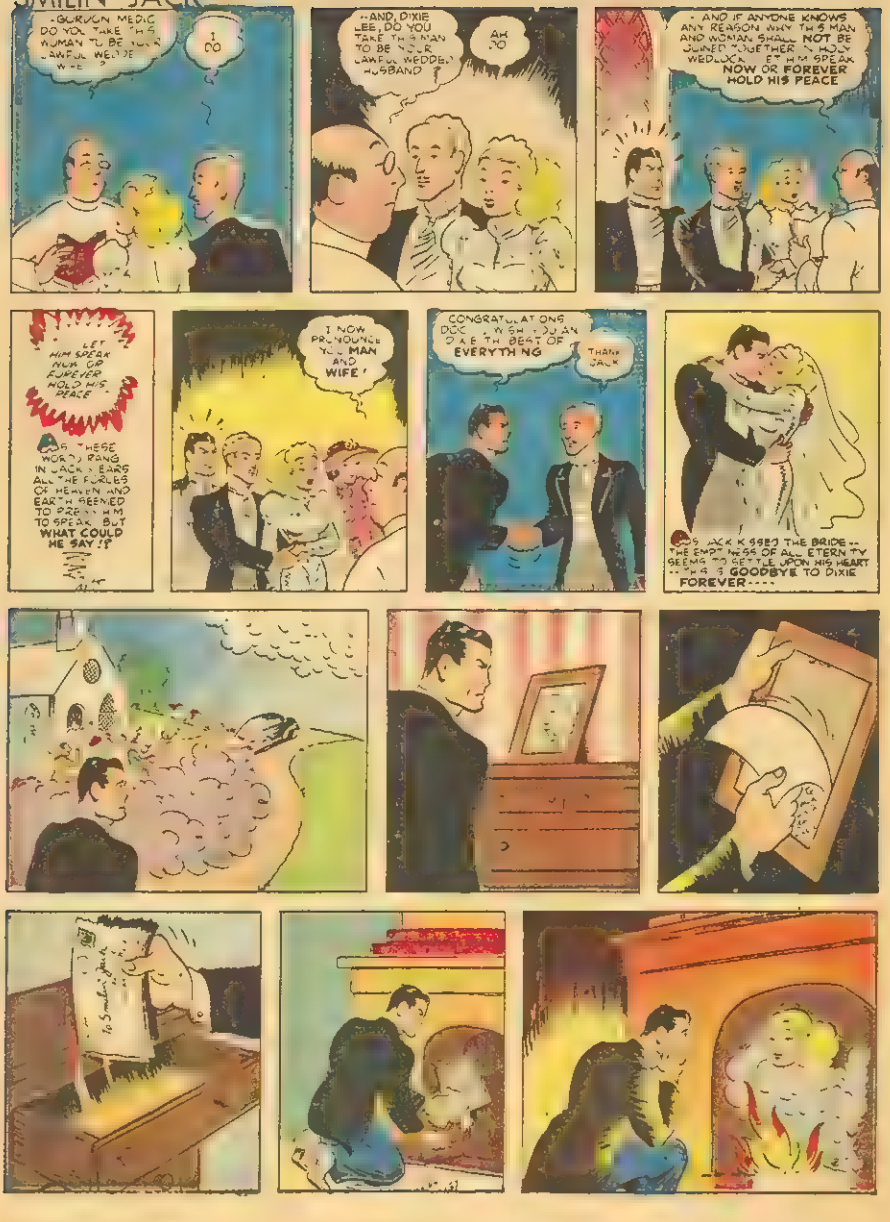
JACK, DIXIE'S SO MAD AT DOC FER NOT SHOWING UP THAT I'LL BET YOU COULD MARRY HER RIGHT NOW!
SH SH' QUIET RUFUS THIS S'LAT ON S EMBARRASS NG ENOUGH W THOUT YOU MAKING IT WORSE!


REVEREND AH RECKON THEAH'S NO NEED TO WAIT ANY LONGER SO DR MEDIC TO SHOW UP LET'S GO
I'M TERRIBLY SCREWY, MISS' DIXIE


PUFF PUFF I'M SORRY I'M LATE, FOLKS BUT - PUFF - I WAS DELAYED BY STORMS ....


--POOR JACK-- STANDIN' THERE LIKE A SOLDIER BUT I KNOW IT'S EATING HIS HEART OUT -- HE'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO SEE IT THROUGH--

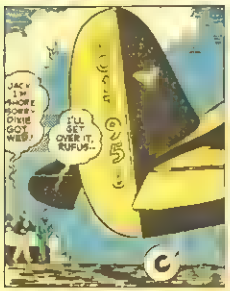
SMILIN' JACK


I DO
AH DO
AND IF ANYONE KNOWS ANY REASON WHY THIS MAN AND WOMAN SHALL NOT BE JOINED TOGETHER IN HOLY WEDLOCK LET HIM SPEAK NOW OR FOREVER HOLD HIS PEACE
LET HIM SPEAK NOW OR FOREVER HOLD HIS PEACE
I NOW PRONOUNCE YOU MAN AND WIFE!
CONGRATULATIONS DOC I WISH YOU ALL THE BEST OF EVERYTHING
THANX JACK
GOODBYE TO DIXIE FOREVER----

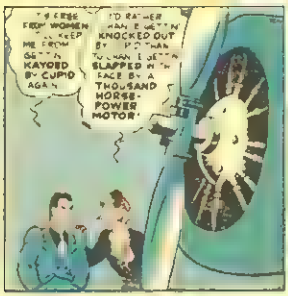
SMILIN' JACK

by ZACK MOSLEY

WHEN DIXIE MARRIED DOCTOR MEDIC, JACK'S HAPPINESS WAS SHATTERED. TRYING TO FORGET, HE TURNS TO THE DANGEROUS JOB OF TEST PILOTING.

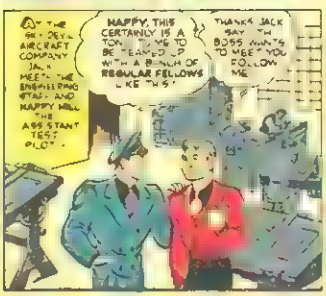


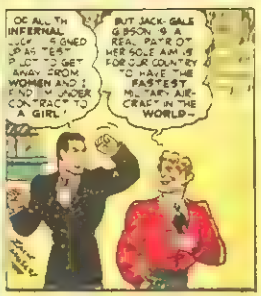
JACK GOT A WIFE TO DEFEND AND HERE THE NEW X-13 SHIP IS ALMOST READY TO TEST.
JACK PLEASE DON'T BE A TEST PILOT IT'S TOO DANGEROUS


I'D RATHER HAVE WOMEN KEEP ME FROM GETTIN KAYOED BY CUPID AGAIN
I'D RATHER HAVE GETTIN KNOCKED OUT BY A WOMAN I GET IN SLAPPED IN THE FACE BY A THOUSAND HORSE POWER MOTOR

JACK, I JES' CAN'T STOP THINKIN' ABOUT HOW SORRY I AM THAT DIXIE MARRIED YOUR BEST FRIEND
NO NEED TO CRY OVER SPILLED CUPID DARLIN' I'VE LEARNED MY LESSON. WELL, I MUST BE OFF TO MY NEW JOB!

TEST PILOTING MAY BE UNCERTAIN BUT AT LEAST IT'S MORE DEPENDABLE THAN WOMEN AT LEAST IT'S A MAN'S JOB AHEAD GIRLS WILL BE OUTTA MY LIFE FOREVER!

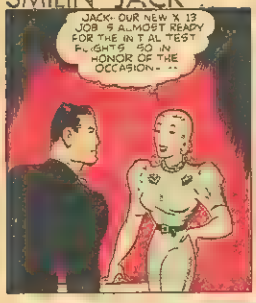

AT THE GRUMBLEY AIRCRAFT COMPANY JACK MEETS THE ENGINEERING STAFF AND HAPPY WILL BE ASSISTANT TEST PILOT.
HAPPY, THIS CERTAINLY IS A TOUGH WAY TO BE TEAMED UP WITH A BUNCH OF REGULAR FELLOWS LIKE THIS!
THANKS JACK SAY THE BOSS WANTS TO SEE YOU FOLLOW ME


OF ALL TH INFERNAL LUCK I SIGNED UP AS TEST PILOT TO GET AWAY FROM WOMEN AND I FIND MYSELF UNDER CONTRACT TO A GIRL
BUT JACK GALE GIBSON IS A REAL PATRIOT HER SOLE AIM IS FOR OUR COUNTRY TO HAVE THE FASTEST MILITARY AIRCRAFT IN THE WORLD

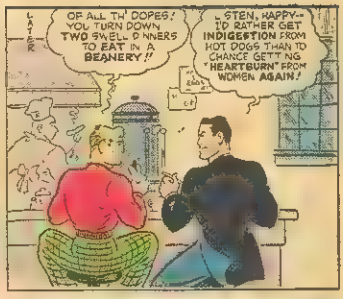
SMILIN' JACK

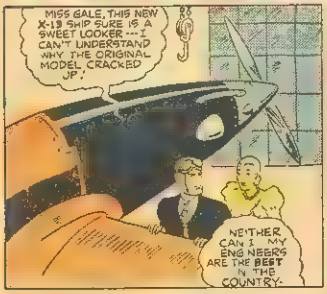
DESPITE OUR BAD CRACK-UPS LATELY SHE'S BEEN SAVING HER RUNE IN THIS COMPANY—OH, HERE'S SOMEBODY ELSE YOU MUST MEET!
SMILIN' JACK THIS IS BUNNY WING! YOU'LL SEE A LOT OF BUNNY - SHE'S FILE CLERK IN OUR DEPARTMENT!
HOW DO YOU DO--
GOOD NIGHT! LOOK MORE WOMEN!
YES THEY SEW FABRIC SOME OF OUR SHIPS AREN'T ALL METAL!
WOMEN! WOMEN! WOMEN!" NO WONDER THERE'S SO FAR APART - THEY DON'T BUILD PLANES HERE THEY CROCHET 'EM!
THIS PLACE IS AS CLUTTERED UP WITH GIRLS AS A SORORITY HOUSE --AN' THEY CALL IT AN AIRPLANE FACTORY
DON'T LET A FEW WOMEN THROW YOU, JACK ALL THE IMPORTANT JOBS HERE ARE HELD BY MEN!
YOU'LL LEARN TO LIKE IT HERE! SAY WHERE ARE YOU STAYING? I'M LOOKIN FOR A ROOM-MATE--I HAVE A BIG ROOM IN A HOUSE NEAR HERE!
WELL MAYBE I CAN PITCH IN WITH WOMEN AROUND THE FACTORY A FEW HOURS A DAY...
IF I HAVE THE COMPANY OF A CARE-FREE EGG LIKE YOU THE REST OF THE TIME I'LL MOVE IN THIS EVENING!
AWELL! I'LL BET BUNNY WON'T BE LIKELY
BUNNY? WHAT'S SHE GOT TO DO WITH IT?
NOTHING - ONLY OUR ROOM IS A- HER HOUSE!
I HARTA PUT UP AN DAMES HERE AT THE PANT 8.' ROOM IN AT BUNNY'S IS OUT
BY JACK I'D HELP BUNNY AN HER DAD SO MUCH
Y SEE BUNNY'S DAD GULLIVER WING WAS A PILOT THAT LOST HIS NERVE FROM A BAD CRACK UP!
GULL WING! IS HE BUNNY'S DAD? I'VE HEARD HIM POOR FELLOW--HE'S A PHYSICAL WRECK!
YES, BUNNY LOOKS AFTER HIM LIKE A MOTHER DOES HAS A HARD TIME MAKING ENDS MEET! OH HERE COMES GULL NOW
HELLO GULL GLAD TO SEE YOU AGAIN - SAY GULL HOW 'BOUT MY RENTING A ROOM AT YOUR HOUSE?
SURE JACK SURE!
JACK, IT'S NICE OF YOU TO ROOM AT OUR HOUSE--- WE DON'T SERVE MEALS TO ROOMERS --BUT I'D LIKE FOR YOU TO DINE WITH US TONIGHT
SORRY, BUNNY-- --I HAVE ANOTHER ENGAGEMENT!
HEY JACK 'N BOYS WANTS TO SEE YOU

SMILIN' JACK


JACK- OUR NEW X 13 JOB S ALMOST READY FOR THE IN T AL TEST FLIGHT S SO IN HONOR OF THE OCCASION- --

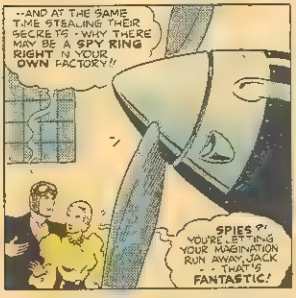
--- I'M HAVING A LITTLE DINNER PARTY AT MY HOUSE TON GHT - CAN YOU BE THERE AT EIGHT ?
THANKS MISS GALE- BUT I HAVE ANOTHER ENGAGEMENT!

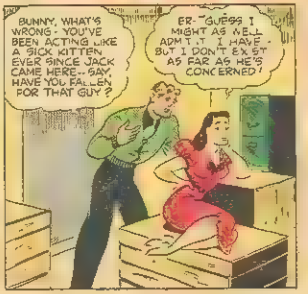

OF ALL TH' DOPES! YOU TURN DOWN TWO SWELL D NNERS TO EAT IN A BEANERY!!
L STEN, HAPPY-- I'D RATHER GET INDIGESTION FROM HOT DOGS THAN TO CHANCE GETT NG "HEARTBURN" FROM WOMEN AGAIN!


MISS GALE, THIS NEW X-13 SHIP SURE IS A SWEET LOOKER --- I CAN'T UNDERSTAND WHY THE ORIGINAL MODEL CRACKED UP!
NEITHER CAN I MY ENG NEERS ARE THE BEST N THE COUNTRY-

--IT MUST HAVE BEEN SOME STRUCTURAL FAULT THAT CAUSED THE WINGS TO GIVE WAY
IT'S A SHAME! IF IT HAD STOOD UP OUR ARMY WOULD HAVE HAD THE FASTEST PLANE IN TH' WORLD SAY! MAYBE T WAS SABOTAGE!!

WITH WAR CLOUDS BOILING SOME FOREIGN POWER MAY BE TRYING TO MAKE YOUR SHIPS APPEAR TO BE FAILURES---

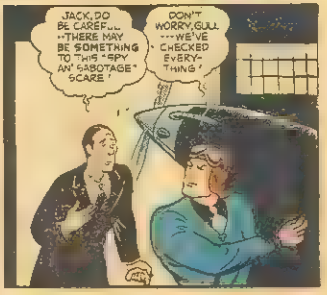

--AND AT THE SAME TIME STEALING THEIR SECRETS - WHY THERE MAY BE A SPY RING RIGHT N YOUR OWN FACTORY!!
SPIES?! YOU'RE LETTING YOUR IMAGINATION RUN AWAY, JACK - - THAT'S FANTASTIC!


BUNNY, WHAT'S WRONG - YOU'VE BEEN ACTING LIKE A SICK KITTEN EVER SINCE JACK CAME HERE-- SAY, HAVE YOU FALLEN FOR THAT GUY?
ER- "GUESS I MIGHT AS WELL ADM T T. I HAVE - BUT I DON'T EX ST AS FAR AS HE'S CONCERNED!

WHAT CHANCE HAS A POOR GIRL LIKE ME WITH A WEALTHY BEAUTY LIKE GALE FOR A RIVAL ? SHE'S N LOVE WITH JACK, TOO

AW, DON'T WORRY ABOUT HER BUNNY---- GALE DOESN'T RATE WITH HIM, EITHER. JACK'S A WOMAN HATER!
MAYBE SO BUT I'LL BET I'D STAND A LOT BETTER CHANCE IF I HAD PRETTY CLOTHES LIKE HER!

GEE I WISH I WAS RICH IF I ONLY HAD TH' MONEY THESE PLANS ARE WORTH INSTEAD OF HAVING TO FILE THEM FOR A LIVING
VAULT

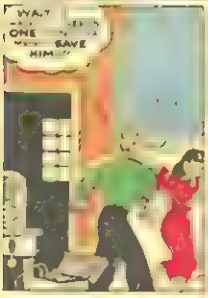

JACK, DO BE CAREFUL.. --THERE MAY BE SOMETHING TO THIS "SPY AN' SABOTAGE" SCARE!
DON'T WORRY, GAL. ---WE'VE CHECKED EVERY-THING!

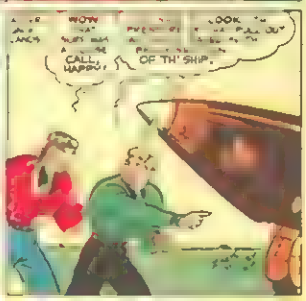
SMILIN' JACK
HIS TERMINAL VELOCITY DIVE!
FASTER--THAT'S
600 MILES PER HOUR
COME APART TO PIECES!
TH' SHIP'S FLYIN' APART--I'VE GOTTA TRY TO BAIL OUT
AT ABOUT 500 M.P.H. I'LL PULL BACK ON
EEOOW!
OO OH! SOMETHING HAS HAPPENED TO JACK!

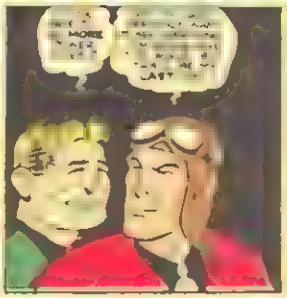
SMILIN' JACK

by ZACK MOSLEY

WITH DIXIE MARRIED TO DR. MEDIC, JACK WAS BITTER AND HEARTBROKEN. HE DECIDED THE ONLY REMEDY TO MAKE HIM FORGET, WAS TO BECOME A TEST PILOT. WHILE TESTING A NEW [illegible] JACK DISAPPEARED IN THE STRATOSPHERE LACK OF OXYGEN AS THE SHIP PLUNGED EARTHWARD.





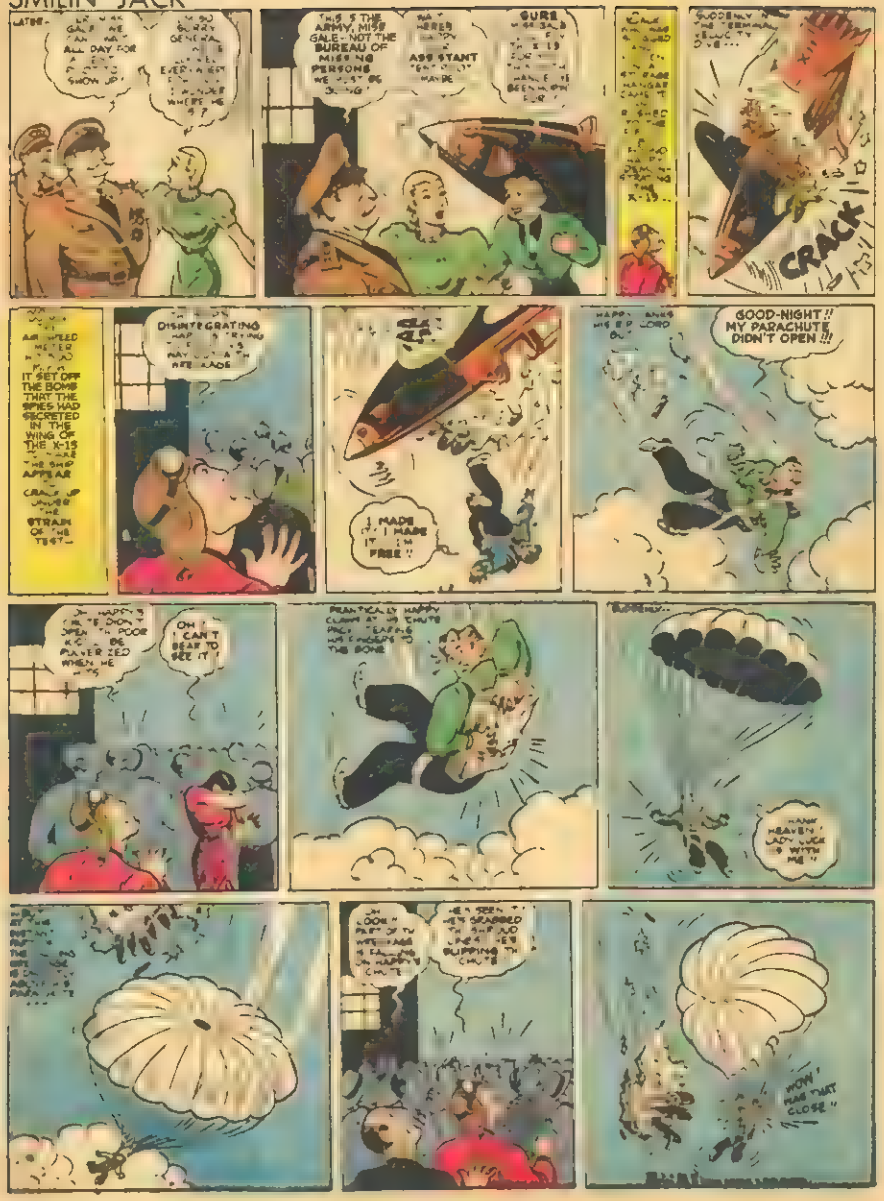


AND SO JACK'S ADVENTURES WILL BE CONTINUED LATER ON AS HE ENTERS ANOTHER...

SMILIN' JACK

SH HIM! THERE'S JACK, TH' TEST PILOT, GUARD NG TH' PLANE
DON'T WORRY ABOUT HIM HE WON T WAKE UP TILL MORNING
DRINKING A BOTTLE OF MILK BEFORE HE RETIRES AND I SAW TO T THAT IT WAS DOPED BEFORE IT WAS DELIVERED TO HIM!
GOOD WE CAN CARRY OUT OUR PLANS N PEACE
LOOK AT JACK LY NG THERE -- OUT LIKE A LIGHT THAT DOPED MILK SURE DID TH' TRICK!
IF HE ONLY KNEW WHAT IS HAPPEN NG TO TH PLANE HE'S GONNA TEST TOMORROW POOR CHAP!"
W TH TH' PLANS OF TH S SHIP YOUR COUNTRY CAN BUILD TH' BEST MIL TARY PLANES IN TH' WORLD!
YES THIS SHIP PASSED ALL TH TESTS IT'S A MARVEL BUT TH AMERICAN ARMY WON'T THINK SO!
I'VE CONCEALED A BOMB IN TH WING AND WIRED IT TO TH' AIR SPEED METER WHEN TH' NEEDLE HITS 500 MILES PER HOUR TH BOMB'LL EXPLODE
AND TO TH AMERICAN ARMY, IT'LL LOOK AS IF TH WINGS COULDN'T STAND TH STRAIN TH PLANE LL BE REJECTED!
YES AMERICA WILL PASS UP TH BEST FIGHTER OF ALL TIMES AND YOUR COUNTRY WILL GET INSTEAD!
X13
THE DOPED MILK KEPT JACK ASLEEP WHILE THE SPIES SECRETED A BOMB IN THE PLANE ....
'MORNING, JACK! ANYBODY TRIED TO BOTHER TH' SHIP YET?
WOPE! IF THERE'D BEEN ANY PROWLERS I'D HAVE HEARD 'EM I'M A LIGHT SLEEPER!
LATER
MISS GALE, YOUR PLANE IS ALL SET FOR TH' BIG DEMONSTRATION!
GOOD THE ARMY OFFICERS WILL SOON BE HERE BUT JACK I WANT ANOTHER PILOT TO FLY IT!
WHAT I SAY I'VE RAISED THAT SHIP FROM AN EGG I'M TH' ONLY PILOT THAT KNOWS ITS TRICKS!
MAYBE IT'S JUST A WOMAN'S INTUITION - BUT I'VE A FEELING SOMETHING MAY GO WRONG
-- AND, JACK FRANKLY- I LIKE YOU TOO MUCH TO LET YOU TAKE ANY MORE CHANCES!
I'M NOT INTERESTED IN YOUR SENTIMENTS -- MY CONTRACT SAYS I DO ALL TH' TESTS ON TH S BUS- AND BY THUNDER, I INTEND TO!"
JACK, PLEASE DON'T TEST THE X 13 FOR THE ARMY IT'S JUST A WOMAN'S INTUITION BUT I'VE A FEELING IT MAY CRASH!
YOU TOO, EH? LISTEN- I DON'T WANT DAMES WORRYIN OVER ME - I'M LOVING TH X 13 AND THAT'S FINAL, BUNNY!
--BUT LATER, AS JACK PASSES A STORAGE HANGAR ON HIS WAY TO THE TESTING FIELD--
KLUNK

SMILIN' JACK


CRACK
DISINTEGRATING
GOOD-NIGHT!! MY PARACHUTE DIDN'T OPEN!!
OH! I CAN'T BEAR TO SEE IT!
KAWW HEAVEN! LADY LUCK IS WITH ME!!
KNOW WAS THAT CLOSE!!

SMILIN' JACK

-- BUT AS HAPPY AVOIDS ONE PIECE OF WRECKAGE ANOTHER PIECE STRIKES HIS 'CHUTE --
HARRUP!
?!
STEP ON IT, DRIVER --HAPPY HIT TH' GROUND AT AN AWFUL SPEED!!
CLANG!
CLANG
JACK, WHAT DO THE DOCTORS SAY WILL HAPPY LIVE?
THEY CAN'T SAY YET, GALE - BUT I DOUBT IF TH' POOR KID WOULD WANT TO IF HE COULD --- SO MANY BONES ARE BROKEN--
POOR HAPPY --IT'S TERRIBLE THAT SUCH A HORRIBLE ACCIDENT SHOULD HAPPEN TO HIM---
GALE, I DON'T THINK IT WAS AN ACCIDENT --I SAY SABOTAGE!
BUT, JACK--- THAT'S SO FANTASTIC!
WELL, IT WON'T BE WHEN I PROVE IT! I'M GONNA FIND THE GUILTY PERSON!
SAY--MAYBE YOU CAN AT THAT--WHY DIDN'T YOU DEMONSTRATE THAT PLANE AS YOU INSISTED YOU WOULD?
I WAS SLUGGED FOR SOME UNKNOWN REASON, SO- SAY' WAIT A MINUTE! YOU DON'T THINK I--
NO JACK, I DON'T SUSPECT YOU-- BUT I WAS ACCUSED YOU JUST TO MAKE YOU REALIZE HOW SILLY YOUR SABOTAGE THEORY IS!
HERE'S TH' GOVERNMENT INSPECTOR --SAY WHAT DOES THE INVESTIGATION SHOW?
TH' PLANE WAS SO COMPLETELY DESTROYED WE'LL NEVER KNOW EXACTLY WHAT DID HAPPEN!
THEN DO YOU THINK IT WAS A STRUCTURAL DEFECT?
YES I'M AFRAID YOUR SHIPS ARE A FAILURE, GALE--TOO MUCH MOTOR AND NOT ENOUGH AIRPLANE!
I DISAGREE' THAT SHIP WAS SOUND AS A TIGER TOOTH WHY I EVEN DID HIGH GRAVITY PULL-OUTS WITH IT!
YES--AND THAT PROBABLY WEAKENED SOMETHING AND IT GAVE WAY N THAT LAST DIVE!
NO-- AS I TOLD GALE--- I SAY SABOTAGE!
SABOTAGE-- MM-M SAY, JACK, DO YOU HAVE ANY REASONS FOR SUSPECTING ANYONE HERE TO BE WITH A SPY RING?
YES--BUT I'D HATE TO POP OFF AND CAST SUSPICION ON PERSONS THAT MAY BE INNOCENT!
WE MUST HAVE ALL YOUR THEORIES ON TH'S SPY ANGLE, JACK!
WELL, GULL WING KNEW PLENTY ABOUT THE X-13 AND HE NEEDS MONEY SO H'S DAUGHTER, BUNNY, WON'T HAVE TO SUPPORT HIM---
--AND BUNNY 'S TH' FILE CLERK W TH ACCESS TO TH' PLANS --SHE WANTS MONEY TO SEND HER DAD TO A SPEC. A. ST --AND GALE--
GALE? SURELY YOU DON'T SUSPECT HER -- SHE'S TH' OWNER!
I KNOW-- BUT SHE'S A WOMAN -AND I DON'T TRUST ANY DAME!!
WELL--WHAT ABOUT HAPPY? HE MIGHT BE TH' "SABOTAGE" MAN --HE COULD HAVE "F XED" THAT SHIP TO TEAR APART!

SMILIN' JACK

WHY, HAPPY WOULDN'T HAVE FLOWN THE X-13 HIMSELF IF HE'D KNOWN IT'D CRACK UP! TH' ODDS AGAINST LIVING THROUGH IT ARE--
LISTEN, JACK, ANYBODY THAT IS A SPY WILL CHANCE ANY ODDS TO SEE A JOB THROUGH!!
I'M AWFUL SORRY ABOUT THIS, GULL!
JACK, SURELY YOU DON'T BELIEVE MY DAUGHTER IS GUILTY!?
WHAT ELSE CAN I THINK, GULL--SHE WAS CAUGHT RED-HANDED--WHY CAN'T GIRLS BE ON TH' LEVEL?
I DON'T BLAME YOU FOR NOT TRUSTING WOMEN, JACK--AFTER THE RAW DEAL ONE GAVE YOU--BUT BUNNY ISN'T BAD!
YOU MUST HELP ME PROVE HER INNOCENCE--SHE LOVES YOU, JACK!
I'M SORRY--THERE'S NOTHIN' I CAN DO!
WELL--IF YOU WON'T HELP FOR BUNNY'S SAKE--THEN PLEASE FOR MY SAKE--BUNNY'S ALL I HAVE IN TH' WORLD--
---IT'LL--IT'LL KILL ME IF SHE'S CONVICTED--DON'T LET ME DOWN, JACK---
WELL, GULL, I DON'T KNOW WHAT I CAN DO--BUT FOR YOUR SAKE I'LL TRY TO HELP BUNNY!
JACK, YOU'VE GIVEN ME A NEW LEASE ON LIFE--OH, HERE'S GALE!
GULL, I'M SORRY ABOUT BUNNY--I'M GOING OVER TO THE JAIL TO SEE HER NOW---
WE'LL GO WITH YOU!
--I WAS FRAMED--I'M NOT A SPY--YOU MUST BELIEVE ME---
WE BELIEVE YOU, BUNNY--AND WE'LL DO EVERYTHING IN OUR POWER TO PROVE YOUR INNOCENCE!
---MY DAUGHTER AROUND HERE--
GULL, I'VE JUST HAD A BRAIN STORM! I BELIEVE GALE IS BACK OF ALL THIS SPY AND SABOTAGE BUSINESS!
GALE!? WHY, THAT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE--TH' OWNER WOULDN'T WRECK HER OWN PLANES!!
OH, I GET IT--YOU THINK BECAUSE GALE IS IN LOVE WITH YOU SHE MIGHT HAVE FRAMED BUNNY BECAUSE SHE KNOWS BUNNY LOVES YOU, TOO---
PERHAPS, GULL--BUT ASIDE FROM JEALOUSY--THERE'S SOMETHING MYSTERIOUS ABOUT GALE--SHE'S ALWAYS GOING AWAY ON TRIPS!
WELL, JACK THAT'S NOT SO STRANGE---MOST EXECUTIVES DO THAT!
YES---BUT SHE GOES ALONE IN HER PRIVATE AIR-YACHT, GULL---
I HEARD SHE'S LEAVING AGAIN TONIGHT---AND I'M GONNA STOW AWAY IN HER SHIP AND FIND OUT WHERE SHE GOES---AND WHY!!
--BUT IF SHE FINDS OUT I'M TRAILING HER AND SHE ISN'T GUILTY--WILL MY FACE BE RED!!!
WELL, JACK, SHADOWING YOUR BOSS IS DANGEROUS BUSINESS--BUT I'M GOING WITH YOU---
NO, GULL---ONE STOWAWAY IS ENOUGH!

--BUT, JACK--GALE'S AIR-YACHT HAS LONG DIVAN-TYPE SEATS ON EACH SIDE--YOU HIDE UNDER ONE--I'LL GET UNDER TH' OTHER!

SAY! WAIT A MINUTE--I THOUGHT YOU WERE AFRAID TO RIDE IN PLANES?
I AM--BUT IF I CAN HELP CATCH TH' PERSON THAT'S TH' CAUSE OF MY DAUGHTER BEIN' IN JAIL, I'LL DO ANYTHING!

OKAY, GULL, YOU WIN--BUT WE GOTTA GET IN HER PLANE QUICK--I SEE GALE COMING NOW!!

HAVE YOU A GUN, JACK?
YES, GULL, BUT HURRY--GALE IS COMING!

BE QUIET! IF WE GET CAUGHT HERE WE'LL BE IN A---
YOU SAID IT!

IS THE SHIP SERVICED, JOE? DID YOU SWING THAT NEW COMPASS?
YES, MISS GALE, EVERYTHING'S ALL SET--I PUT IN A FULL LOAD OF GAS AN' OIL--AN' THE ENGINES ARE WARM--WHEN CAN WE EXPECT YOU BACK?
MECHANIC

OH, JUST EXPECT ME WHEN YOU SEE ME--SAY, WHERE ARE MY AIR-MAPS?
AIR-MAPS? OH--I THINK I PUT THEM UNDER THAT LONG SEAT THERE WITH TH PARACHUTES!
MECHANIC

OH, HERE'S THE MAP I WAS LOOKING FOR, IN THIS SIDE POCKET--GET TH' HANGAR DOORS OPEN WHILE I PLOT MY COURSE--
SURE, MISS GALE!
THANKS

WHEW! WAS THAT A CLOSE CALL! SAY--SHE'S TAKING OUT FOR THE TAKEOFF NOW---

AFTER AN HOUR OF FLYING, GALE CUTS THE GUN AND NOSES DOWN HER AMPHIBIAN--

SAY--LISTEN TO THAT SPLASH! WE'VE MADE A WATER LANDING!

WE'RE PROBABLY AT SOME LAKE RESORT---AND I'LL HAFTA SPEND TH' WEEK-END IN THIS HOT BOX WHILE GALE'S SWIMMIN', DANCIN' AND SIPPIN' PINK TEA!!

GOSH--I GUESS MY PINK TEA THEORY IS ALL WET--GALE PICKED UP TWO MEN AND WE'RE TAKING OFF AGAIN!

GALE, THIS SHIP SEEMS LOG'Y---MY PILOT TOOK SUCH A LONG RUN TO GET OFF YOU'D THINK WE HAD A FULL LOAD OF PASSENGERS!
YES, POWDER, BUT IT WAS PROBABLY BECAUSE THERE'S NOT MUCH WIND AND THE WATER'S SO SMOOTH THE SUCTION WOULDN'T BREAK QUICKLY!

SMILIN' JACK

--THEY'RE SITTING ON THIS SEAT--BUT I WISH THEY'D TALK LOUDER--IF I DON'T HEAR WHAT THEY'RE SAYING---
--I'LL NEVER KNOW WHETHER GALE IS AN INTERNATIONAL SPY OR I AM AN INTERNATIONAL SAP!--WHEW--BUT IT'S HOT IN HERE!!
WELL, POWDER, THE X-13 STOOD ALL TESTS PERFECTLY --BUT I FIXED IT SO IT SHED IT'S WINGS IN THE FINAL DIVE!
THE AMERICAN ARMY THOUGHT IT WAS A FAILURE AND THEY REJECTED IT!
SPLENDID WORK GALE!
NOW YOUR COUNTRY WILL BENEFIT FROM THE WORK OF THE BEST AVIATION ENGINEERS IN AMERICA--HERE ARE ALL THE X-13'S PLANS
AND HERE IS YOUR PAY FROM MY GOVERNMENT IT'S A DRAFT ON MONEY THAT'S BEEN TRANSFERRED TO AN AMERICAN BANK
WELL, I CAN'T MAKE OUT EXACTLY WHAT THEY'RE SAYING BUT I'VE HEARD ENOUGH --- HERE I GO!
JACK HUNCHES HIS BACK AGAINST THE SEAT TOP AND GIVES AN UPWARD LUNGE--
PLANS OF THE X-13! A CHECK TO GALE FOR A HALF MILLION DOLLARS! PILOT-- HEAD THIS PLANE FOR WASHINGTON, D.C.!
I'LL HAFTA TELL HIM! MY PILOT DOESN'T UNDER-STAND ENGLISH!
THE PILOT OBEYS POWDER'S ORDER--- BUT--WITH A JERK SO HARD THAT JACK IS THROWN OFF BALANCE---
SEEING JACK THROWN OFF BALANCE BY THE SHARP BANK, POWDER LUNGES---
IN THE STRUGGLE, JACK LOSES HIS GUN--IT CRASHES A WINDOW----
AS JACK AND POWDER FIGHT, GALE WHIPS OUT AN AUTOMATIC--
I HATE TO DO THIS TO YOU, JACK--- BUT YOU ASKED FOR IT---

SMILIN' JACK

JUST AS GALE IS ABOUT TO PULL THE TRIGGER, GULL SPRINGS OUT FROM UNDER THE OTHER SEAT---
BANG!
THE BULLET FOUND A MARK --ONE OF THE FIGHTERS SLUMPS TO THE FLOOR--
KLUNK!
JACK, GALE SHOT HER OWN ACCOMPLICE ACCIDENTALLY!
YES, THANKS TO YOU--YOU CAUSED HER TO DO IT WHEN YOU HIT HER ON TH' HEAD WITH YOUR CANE!
7-30
GRAB GALE'S GUN AND KEEP AN EYE ON THEM IN CASE THEY COME TO--- KEEP TH' PILOT COVERED ALSO, GULL!
GO AFT, BIG BOY--I'M TAKING OVER--
+G-MK JOPE JUPE! € GES+!
AS THE PILOT KAYOED JACK, GULL SHOT THE PILOT--BUT ONE BULLET WENT WILD AND CUT THE IGNITION WIRES--STOPPING BOTH MOTORS
BANG! BANG!
WHILE JACK, GALE, POWDER AND THE PILOT ARE UNCONSCIOUS, GULL GRABS A PARACHUTE AND STARTS TO BAIL OUT--BUT--
OH--- WAIT--I CAN'T DESERT JACK LIKE THIS--
--PASSING UP HIS CHANCE FOR SAFETY, GULL QUICKLY GRABS THE CONTROLS.
OH--I CAN'T GET IT OUT---WE'RE SPINNING IN ---J--JUST LIKE ON MY LAST FLIGHT---
G--GULP! I CAN'T BELIEVE IT--IT--IT HAS COME OUT OF TH' SPIN --B--BUT I CAN'T LAND IT--I--I--I HAVEN'T FLOWN A SHIP IN Y--Y--YEARS--
--WE'RE GONNA CRACK-UP! I CAN SEE THE C.C.C. BOYS SAWING ME OUT OF THE TANGLED WRECKAGE NOW --- JUST LIKE MY OTHER C--CRASH!!
--I--I CAN'T CRASH-- I--MUSTN'T CRASH--I-- --I--I'VE--GOTTA LAND THIS PLANE --T-THERE'S A SMALL CLEARING TO TH' RIGHT--
WHEW! I MADE IT-- --BUT I'D NEVER HAVE DONE IT IF I HADN'T BEEN FORCED TO--I GUESS IT'S A GOOD THING TH' OTHERS WERE UNCONSCIOUS!